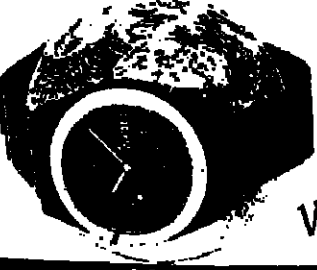


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MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1989/RABI'UL AWWAL 16, 1410 AH

20 PAGES 150 FILLS

Private sector boost No taxes at present

HIGHLY placed sources at the Ministry of Planning have revealed that a number of proposals have been submitted to introduce amendments to Kuwait's development strategy within the framework of the Second Five-Year Plan.

Planning Minister Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Awadhi, has said that the new plan would provide the private sector a stronger role in the development of the economy, in the form of a set of incentives which will range from production support, trust facilities and a share in finance to projects on a partnership basis.

There is no plan in the current stage to impose taxes and charges to services Al-Awadhi said.

Full Story Page 9



HH the Amir with Ortega.

Ortega assures of peace in Centam

Talks with Amir held: Palestine discussed

KUWAIT, (AP): President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua, currently touring the Gulf to boost his image back home before forthcoming presidential elections and seeking aid for his cash-strapped nation, held a first round of talks Sunday with the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad, officials said.

Ortega arrived in Kuwait on Saturday from Doha, Qatar, on the second leg of a Gulf tour, the first to the Arab region by a Nicaraguan head of state.

His talks with the Amir were attended by senior officials from both states, who included Nicaragua's ministers of planning and foreign affairs.

A Kuwaiti government spokesman said the talks dealt with "the Palestine question, the Lebanese crisis, Arab and international issues, as well as bilateral relations between the two friendly states, and means of developing them in various spheres."

The spokesman gave no further details, but government officials said Ortega assured Kuwait's leaders that his government was keen on restoring peace and stability in Central America by ending the US-backed Contra movement.

The official said the talks between Ortega and the Amir also covered relations within the Non-

Aligned Movement, of which both Nicaragua and Kuwait are members.

Ortega's visit to Kuwait was arranged at the sidelines of the Non-Aligned Movement's last summit in the Yugoslav capital of Belgrade.

Ortega has sought the chairmanship of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) but because of differences with Indonesia, the foreign minister of NAM selected Belgrade as the venue for the ninth summit.

Kuwait currently NAM deputy chairman and also chairman of the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference, could play a prominent role in deciding the site of the forthcoming NAM summit in 1992.

Opposition mounts to polls on US bases

MANILA, Oct. 15, (AP): Seventeen members of the Philippine constitution have spoken out against holding a referendum on the future of the six US military bases before the Senate has acted on the issue.

The statement was issued yesterday after President Corason Aquino told an American television interviewer that the people should be consulted on the bases before the Senate makes its decision.

The lease on Clark Air Base, Subic Bay naval base and four smaller installations expires in September 1991. US and Filipino negotiators are to begin talks on a new agreement in December.

Under the constitution, any new agreement must be ratified by two-thirds of the 23-member Senate, where opposition to the bases is strong.

In an interview on Friday on the television programme "Good Morning America," Aquino said that if the two sides reach an agreement, "then before it is sent to our Senate for ratification, maybe we could consult with our people and ask them if they are indeed in favour of such an agreement or not."

She did not specifically call for a referendum or say how the consultation would take place. But pro-administration Congressmen have recently called for a referendum before the Senate takes up the bases issue.

The 17 members of the constitutional commission, which drafted the current charter three years ago, said that such a referendum should be held only if the Senate ratifies the new treaty.

The 17, including commission chairman Cecilia Muñoz-Palma, said the framers intended to end foreign military presence in the country after the current agreement expires.

The constitution states that any new bases treaty must be ratified by the Senate and later by a referendum if so ordered by Congress.

The House of Representatives is to vote soon on a proposal to hold a referendum within two months of completion of bases talks. The Senate opposes any such referendum.

The referendum idea was first offered by House Speaker Ramon Mitra, who said the issue was too important to be left to only 23 people.

Legislation has been filed in the House of Representatives calling for a referendum within 60 days of completion of a new agreement and before it is forwarded to the Senate.

Although Mitra never explicitly declared support for the bases, most surveys indicate a majority of the nearly 60 million Filipinos approve of them.

About 40,000 US troops, military dependents and civilians are stationed at the six bases. US officials say the bases contribute about \$1 billion a year to the economy in the form of aid, salaries to Filipino employees and spending by US troops.

(See Page 2)

Five killed in copter crash

RIYADH, Oct. 15, (AP): A jetstream helicopter crashed in the eastern province, killing three British Aerospace Corp. employees and two Saudi Arabian trainees, officials said today.

The Ministry of Defence and Aviation said the five men were on a training mission yesterday when a major technical failure occurred and the plane crashed. It did not elaborate on the failure.

A statement from the ministry identified the two Saudis as Saleh Bin Goman and Awad Bin Hussein Al Kahtani.

Fed ready to prevent panic selling of stocks

Monday trading nervously awaited

NEW YORK, Oct. 15, (Agencies): The US government Wall Street has conferred on how to react to the stock market tumble in order to prevent a replay of the crash of 1987 when trading resumes tomorrow.

New York Stock Exchange President Richard Grasso spoke by telephone yesterday with officials in Washington and with leaders at other major exchanges and brokerages to discuss Friday's market plunge.

"We're not taking unusual actions today," NYSE spokeswoman Sharon Gamsin said. "We feel confident that we have put procedures.

systems and safeguards in place over the past two years so that we are adequately prepared for any level of activity."

The amount of money available to the stock market following the selloff, the reaction overseas and the future of takeovers all were of concern over the weekend.

The US Central Bank plans to make money available tomorrow to prevent panic selling following a 190.58-point drop in the stock market, the New York Times and Washington Post said today.

"Markets will be able to count on us to make sure the financial system stays liquid," the New York Times quoted an unidentified top official of the Federal Reserve board as saying.

Free education School for the poor

FOR the first time in Kuwait, the government is planning to open a school where expatriate students could obtain free education, a local daily reported.

Government sources said that the proposed school will offer education for students over six years of age who cannot afford to join schools due to financial difficulties.

The school will operate in the morning and in the evening and will impart education for boys and girls. Admission requirements will be similar to those existing at government schools.

A special committee will be set up to lay down the conditions for qualified students who can join the proposed school as of the academic year 1990/1991. Admissions will be confined to first timers who have not been registered at any school.

The decision is aimed at preventing a repeat of the October 19, 1987, stock market crash when the industrial average at the New York Stock Exchange plunged 508 points following a 108-point drop the previous Friday, the newspaper said.

"The decline led many shareholders of mutual funds to cash in their shares. As the mutual funds themselves ran out of cash, they had to sell more shares, which further depressed stock prices," the newspaper said.

The Federal Reserve official said the decision to make funds available was being discussed with officials in Western Europe and Asia over the weekend.

"To calm the markets it's important that institutions know there are adequate funds available," the official said. "Once the markets realise there will be no credit crunch, we can resume normal business."

The Washington Post quoted a senior Federal Reserve official as saying the Fed, the Treasury Department and other agencies were in close contact to discuss the move and had co-ordinated plans with other industrial countries, particularly Japan, which is expected to take similar action in the Tokyo market.

The official was quoted as saying "it should be quite evident to

(Continued on Page 13)

Ethnic talks in Kuwait

SOFIA, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Bulgaria said today it would hold talks with Turkey this month on the two countries' dispute over Bulgaria's ethnic Turkish minority.

Deputy Foreign Minister Ivan Ganev told a news conference that the two foreign ministers, Petar Mladenov of Bulgaria and Mesut Yilmaz of Turkey, would meet in Kuwait on October 30.

The meeting has been arranged in response to a call from the Organisation of Islamic Conference for direct talks on the issue. Turkey has already agreed in principle to attend.

Ankara wants a pact with Sofia over the future of Bulgaria's 1.3 million ethnic Turks and the property rights of 310,000 refugees who have fled to Turkey since mid-May.

Previous attempts to organise a top-level meeting have failed because Bulgaria said Turkey was setting too many conditions for the talks.

Western diplomats in Sofia said they had not expected the meeting to be arranged so soon.



A trader uses two telephones as he watches a monitor in the Israeli stock exchange. Another trader waves rolled-up paper while making bids as Israeli shares plunged eight per cent today in reaction to Friday's Wall Street slide. (Reuters wire-photo)

Joy of freedom

Walter Sisulu, released yesterday after being jailed since 1963 with other African National Congress leaders, ranks alongside close friend Nelson Mandela at the forefront of militant opposition to apartheid.

During their imprisonment, Mandela, a lawyer and charismatic speaker, captured the international spotlight rather than Sisulu, a former labourer and school dropout.

But among South African blacks, the two are viewed as

virtual equals, and the Sisulu clan is widely viewed as the first family of the anti-apartheid movement.

Wearing glasses and a conservative gray suit, the white-haired, 77-year-old Sisulu looked more like a church elder than a leader of an outlawed guerrilla movement.

Albertina Sisulu having a happy moment with her husband Walter. (Reuters wirephoto)

(See Page 4)

Members urged to accelerate union

EEC to attract East bloc reformers

ESCLIMONT, France, Oct. 15, (Reuters): European Economic Community (EEC) Foreign Ministers agreed today that the bloc should build links with reform-minded states in eastern Europe while pursuing its own drive towards economic integration.

During a weekend of informal talks, European Commission President Jacques Delors urged the ministers to accelerate economic and political union to make the bloc a magnet for countries such as Poland and Hungary.

Delors and French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, whose country currently holds the EEC's rotating presidency, said they would make a joint visit to Warsaw and Budapest soon to see what further support the 12-nation community could provide.

But their determination to force the pace of European integration — in particular by asking December's EEC summit

in Strasbourg to make precise commitments on monetary union — risks provoking a clash between a reluctant Britain and its EEC partners.

"The events taking place in Europe require...an acceleration in the process of building the community or at least a reaffirmation of our will to act together," Delors said.

"We must not only strengthen ourselves but offer hope for others," he told reporters afterwards.

The ministers also agreed to take unspecified new initiatives in support of peace moves in Lebanon and the Middle East and to press for more reforms in South Africa following the release of prominent political prisoners there.

Dumas also told the news conference a French initiative for closer EEC co-ordination in the fight against drugs had been well received and would be on the agenda at the Strasbourg sum-

mit. ■ Pro-democracy activists said today they will demonstrate in Leipzig, despite the communist leadership's statement that demonstrations interfered with discussion of reforms.

Also today, a high-ranking Lutheran church official in East Germany called on the government to allow free elections by secret ballot, and warned the leadership not to dismiss pro-democracy activists as "enemies of the state."

And the West German newspaper Bild reported that the Communist Party's central committee in East Berlin will hold a special session this week that could formally decide the political future of hard-line leader Erich Honecker.

Bild, quoting unidentified sources in East Berlin, said the meeting would follow the session of the ruling politburo that is set for Thursday. (See Page 5)

'Borg used cocaine'

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 15, (AP): Bjorn Borg's former girlfriend claimed in a Swedish magazine interview that the former tennis superstar used cocaine several times during their relationship, it was reported today.

Jannike Bjorling was quoted as saying in the magazine "2" that Borg's "cocaine abuse... killed their romance and made her so depressed that she once tried to commit suicide," the newspaper Expressen said.

Borg was not immediately available for a comment, but his Swedish lawyer Henning Sjöström told Expressen, Scandinavia's biggest newspaper, that they will sue Bjorling for slander.

"This is shameful and she will

regret this tremendously," Sjöström was quoted as saying, adding that "she's only trying to make money and making up lies about Borg in view of the custody fight for their son."

Borg met Bjorling during a beauty queen contest in Stockholm in 1984, shortly after Borg and his former wife Mariana Simonescu filed for divorce. One year later, Bjorling and Borg had a son, Robin.

Borg recently married Loredana Berge, an Italian rock singer. Bjorling's allegations are published in the next issue of "2". She said Borg offered her cocaine for the first time during a private party in New York a few months after they met.

ARAB TIMES

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entries and numbers will be drawn
from Oct 18.

150

Mystery of aviation legend remains unsolved

SUVA, Fiji, Oct 15, (AP): The mystery of aviation legend Amelia Earhart remained unsolved after an American group failed to prove that she crash-landed on one of two Pacific islands when she vanished 52 years ago.

But Pat Thrasher of the international group for historic aviation recovery

said the expedition to two deserted coral atolls had uncovered enough data and artefacts to warrant further research.

"We did not find a great silver airplane among the coconut trees," Thrasher said after the 17-member team sailed into Suva following a survey of

Nikumaroro (formerly Gardner) and McKean islands. "But there was a great deal to support the theory, and certainly nothing to disprove it."

The islands lie in what is now the Republic of Kiribati, some 1,000 miles (1,600 kms) northeast of Fiji. Earhart and navigator Fred Noonan

were last seen on July 2, 1937, taking off from Lae, Papua New Guinea in their two-engine Lockheed Electra.

They were bound for the tiny equatorial United States outpost of Howland island, and then intended to head onto California for what would have been the first round-the-world

flight by a woman.

A subsequent navy search found no sign of the plane, which many presumed had ditched into the sea.

But in recent years the aviation recovery group, based in Wilmington, Delaware, theorised that the pair may have made it to McKean, or more likely

Nikumaroro.

Howland island is about 500 miles (800 kms) to the north of the two islands, which both lack fresh drinking water. The group had suggested Earhart survived a crash landing and managed to send off distress signals but died of thirst or injuries after a few days.

Rescued war relic to be preserved

LONDON, Oct 15, (AP): A mural of a World War II bomber, painted by an all-but-unknown soldier, has been rescued from a disused US 8th Air Force airfield in England to become a permanent memorial.

The section of brick wall on which the 12-by-8-foot (3.6-by-2.4 metre) picture was directly painted was carefully taken down on Saturday at Podington airfield by a team of English enthusiasts. It is to be preserved at a museum.

"It was a thrill to see something that has been in the dark for more than 40 years come into the light again and be saved for posterity," said Richard Nimmo, one of a team who since 1987 devote unpaid weekends to searching wartime English airfields of the "mighty 8th" to retrieve similar relics.

The painting, done from a photograph, shows a B-17 flying fortress of the 92nd bomb group unloading its bombs while anti-aircraft shells burst around it in a raid over the European continent.

"The painting is starting to flake but it's in quite good condition. We caught it in time," Nimmo said in a telephone interview last night.

Titled "The big picture," it was painted in about 1944 by a staff sergeant named Waldersmidt, Nimmo said.

"We think he was on the ground crew," he said. "We don't know anything else about him except that we heard he is still alive in the United States. We don't know his first name or where he lives. We hope to track him down with help from 92nd bomb group veterans."

Podington airfield, 10 miles (16 kilometres) east of the town of Northampton and 65 miles (104 kilometres) north of London, was one of about 130 8th Air Force bases for bombers and fighters in the eastern England flatlands, established to raid Germany and German-occupied territory.

After the war, most of the Podington field reverted to farming but the brick huts used by the crews have remained as workshops for drag-racing on the airfield's runway and the control tower has been converted into a house.

The mural removal team, who call themselves the 8th wall art conservation society, had to get permission from the farmer to take down the painting, and they will have to rebuild the wall.

With help from the modern US Air Force base at Alconbury near Cambridge, the mural is being transported to Duxford, another old 8th Air Force field of the 78th fighter group, 35 miles (56 miles) east of Podington.

Green light for shuttle launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, Oct 15, (UPI): A new engine computer aboard shuttle Atlantis was successfully tested yesterday and NASA managers cleared the delayed spaceport for launch on Tuesday to carry the nuclear-powered Galileo probe into space.

The shuttle's crew flew back to the Kennedy Space Centre from Houston late yesterday and engineers were scheduled to restart the interrupted countdown at 0400 GMT Monday.

If all goes well, the \$2 billion shuttle and its \$1.4 billion cargo, the Galileo Jupiter probe, will blast off at 1657 GMT Tuesday, five days later than originally planned.

Five feet wide hole made US plane on fire, 6 injured

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Oct 15, (AP): A Delta Airlines 727 caught fire during a stop here yesterday, injuring six and leaving a gaping hole in the aircraft, officials said.

"There was a bang, and the stewardess told everyone to exit through the rear door," said passenger Jerome Stumborg. Passengers calmly left the plane via the rear steps, he said.

The blaze was quickly put out. Five male Delta crew members, including the first officer, and a male passenger were treated at hospitals for smoke inhalation and released, officials said.

The Boeing 727, which has a seating capacity of 120, had made a scheduled stop here en route from Los Angeles to Edmonton, Alberta.

Stumborg, who boarded the plane in Los Angeles, said he and about 20 others were waiting for the aircraft to take on Salt Lake City passengers when smoke started pouring out of a vent in the first class section.

It left a hole five feet (1.5 metres) wide and melted a substantial portion of the skin of the front third of the plane, according to Tim Phillips, the airport authority's director of operations.

Marcos eulogy termed insulting

HONOLULU, Oct 15, (AP): A eulogy comparing Ferdinand Marcos to Jesus Christ was "ridiculous, absurd and an insult to the Filipino people," Hawaii's top Catholic official said yesterday.

"I sincerely regret the gross abuse of the Catholic mass as a forum to make yet another blatantly political statement regarding the late Ferdinand Marcos, former president of the Philippines," the Roman Catholic Bishop of Honolulu, Joseph Ferrario, said in a written statement yesterday.

During a funeral mass Friday at the Co-Cathedral of St Theresa, Monsignor Domingo Nebres, a priest from the Philippines, eulogised his longtime friend as a man who suffered like Jesus Christ and forgave those who betrayed him.

"Christ was a victim of the people's power, so Marcos was a victim of the people's power," he said, referring to the 1986 "people power" revolt that ended Marcos' 20-year rule in the Philippines.

After the mass, Nebres told reporters he was not comparing Marcos to Jesus in terms of power, but in suffering.

Ferrario said Nebres, who does not have a Honolulu parish, was allowed to say the mass only after agreeing not to give a eulogy or say anything political.

"He gave us his word that he would follow these directions. His comments at the mass violated these instructions," said Ferrario. "Furthermore, we consider his comparison of Marcos to Jesus as ridiculous, absurd and an insult to the Filipino people."

Nebres defended himself, saying his comments were personal, not political, and that he spoke only of Marcos' suffering, especially during his three-year exile.

"No one can imitate Jesus in power, only in suffering," he said. As for the instructions not to give a eulogy at all, Nebres said: "When someone is dead in front of you, you must give him a little glory as a comfort to his family and those who loved him."

A closed coffin holding Marcos' body was displayed near the altar during the mass. After the hour-long service, the coffin was opened and more than 2,000 people passed by to pay their respects.

Arturo Aruiza, a longtime Marcos adviser and spokesman for the family, said no member of Marcos' family approved the eulogy in advance.

"They trusted everything would go smoothly," he said. "I think (the bishop's) reaction is overblown."

"He was not saying Marcos was Jesus Christ," Aruiza said. "He was well-meaning and did not intend to be political."

Aruiza said Marcos' widow, Imelda, did not know of Ferrario's reaction and therefore would have no comment.



Too crowded

Twenty-five thousand runners from 27 countries participated in the 20-km Paris road race. The race which started in front of the Eiffel tower and followed

a course around the Bois de Boulogne was won by the Portuguese runner Antonio Pinto. (Reuter wire-photo)

'We can make it to 100'

Living on caveman's diet

COLLEGE STATION, Texas, Oct 15, (UPI): A professor who eats peanuts in the shell, apple cores, cactus fruit and an occasional ant believes most people could live to be 100 if they adopted the diet of prehistoric man.

"If we just ate the diet they ate and with the advances of modern medicine, proper exercise and the pampered lifestyle we have, there's no reason we couldn't make it to 100," Vaughn Bryant Jr., the head of Texas A and M University's anthropology department, said this week.

Bryant, who has been following such a diet

since the mid-1970s, has a regular mid-afternoon snack of peanuts in the shell.

"Marvellous," he said. "You can eat these all day long. A doctor told me they're just like a brillo pad going through your intestines."

Bryant, who has a doctorate in botany and is an expert on pollen, said he began pursuing the caveman diet because he needed to shed 30 pounds (13.5 kg) and the fad diets of the day did not work for him.

The professor said he drew the line at lizards and crickets.

Ozal delays decision on presidential candidacy as deadline for nominations nears

ANKARA, Oct 15, (Reuter): Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal said today he had not yet decided whether to stand for President, four days before the official deadline for nominations expires.

"On the matter of (my) presidential candidacy, I have not made up my mind yet," Ozal, Turkey's dominant politician for the past six years, told a news conference.

Many members of his ruling Motherland Party had expected he would announce he was standing for the seven-year post, which carries some executive powers.

Asked whether he had chosen a successor to lead his party if he became the head of state, Ozal said: "This is a process. If I take a decision I will of course think about that."

The first of up to four ballots in Parliament to choose the next President will begin on October 30. Failure to elect a successor to Kenan Evren, a former general who led Turkey under military rule from 1980 to 1983, will result in general elections.

If he stands, Ozal will be almost assured of winning since the Motherland holds 289 seats in the 450-member Parliament. A successful can-

didate needs 300 votes in the first two rounds but only a simple majority in the final two.

No candidates have so far definitely announced they will stand. The nomination deadline is Thursday.

Opposition parties, noting that the Motherland's popular support has slumped to only 13.5 per cent in recent opinion polls, have threatened to boycott the election and say they will not recognise Ozal as President.

Turkey's ties with the European Economic Community (EEC) carry more importance than an actual date for joining as a full member, Ozal said today.

"The date is not important for us now. What is important is the continuation of relations with the EEC. It is also important for the EEC that Turkey is not cast aside and is given a green light," he told a news conference.

Turkey, an associate EEC member since 1963, applied for full membership in April 1987 and is expecting a reply from Brussels.

Turkey and the Soviet Union will discuss co-operation in railway construction during talks in Moscow this week, Turkish Finance Minister Ekrem Fakdemirli said today.

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Oct 15 1989

Nancy's memoirs: Reagan, Baker shouldn't have switched jobs

NEW YORK, Oct. 15. (AP) Nancy Reagan says the biggest mistake of her husband's presidency was allowing Donald Regan and James Baker to switch jobs in January 1985.

Mrs Reagan sharply criticises Regan in her soon-to-be published memoirs. She says Regan, who moved from treasury secretary to White House chief of staff in the job swap, "often acted as if he were president."

The book, "My turn: The Memoirs of Nancy Reagan," written with ghostwriter William Novak, is excerpted in

the Oct 23 issue of Newsweek magazine.

In an interview on Wednesday that was to be broadcast today on the Associated Press radio network, Mrs Reagan said the book was not intended as an attempt to get even for slights she suffered during the presidency of her husband, Ronald Reagan.

"I hope it doesn't read that way," she said in the AP network programme "Newsweek on Air." "I tried very hard not to be vindictive."

Mrs Reagan said all she wanted to do

was "set the record straight about a lot of things that had not been straight during the White House years."

She said she thinks the news media made too much of her supposed feud with Soviet First Lady Raisa Gorbachev, but she admitted she didn't like her.

"From the moment we met, she talked and talked... I could barely get a word in," Mrs Reagan said. "My fundamental impression of Raisa Gorbachev was that she never stopped talking. Or lecturing, to be more accurate."

Mrs Reagan says her consultation with astrologer Joan Quigley "began as a crutch" to ease her anxiety after her husband was shot in 1981. It eventually became "an enormous embarrassment" to Reagan when Regan revealed it to the news media.

In the book, Mrs Reagan denies she engineered Regan's departure from the White House. But she details her role in making her husband aware of growing complaints about him at the height of the Iran-Contra affair, in which proceeds from the secret sale of

weapons to Iran were diverted to Contra rebels fighting to overthrow Nicaragua's leftist Sandinista government.

It was the biggest scandal of the Reagan years.

"I'm not saying Iran-Contra was Don Regan's doing," Mrs Reagan writes. "But it did occur on his watch, and when it came out, he should have taken responsibility."

Mrs Reagan also says she believes CIA director William Casey was deeply involved in the scandal "when he

wasn't thinking clearly," because of the brain tumor that eventually killed him.

"If, by some miracle, I could take back one decision in Ronnie's presidency," she says, "it would be his agreement in January 1985 that Don Regan and Jim Baker switch jobs."

She called Alexander Haig, President Reagan's first secretary of state, "Ronnie's biggest mistake in the first term."

Haig, she writes, was "too powerful, hungry (and) obsessed with matters of status."



Nancy Reagan (Reuters wirephoto)



Celebrates his 110th birthday

France's oldest citizen Henri Perignon is photographed by his great-grand daughter as he celebrates his one hundred and tenth

birthday in Roven, Normandy Oct 14. At the age of ten the little girl is 100 years old his junior. (Reuters wirephoto)

Shows irreverence for glamour Bette Davis' scrapbook

BOSTON, Oct. 15. (AP) In one of the dozens of scrapbooks kept by Bette Davis, a picture portrays the young actress as the model of gentility, wearing a long, white dress, holding a white parasol.

Next to the photo is scrawled, "for publicity — what else?"

The actress, who died this month at age 81, chronicled her stardom with hundreds of articles, photos, annotated scripts, letters and mementos. The collection, housed at Boston University, reveals not only her career but her irreverent attitude towards Hollywood glamour.

"The scrapbooks are just like her mind — she was meticulous," said Howard Gottlieb, who as curator of the university library's special collections persuaded Davis to donate the memorabilia more than 15 years ago.

The collection contains more than 100,000 items, including Davis' fourth-grade report card. Her best marks were in reading and spelling.

There are photos of Davis with stars such as Clark Gable, Spencer Tracy and Gary Cooper, and copies of speeches she gave in support of Franklin Roosevelt and the government's effort to sell war bonds during World War II.

One box contains a mirror that belonged to the legendary French actress Sarah Bernhardt; it later became a gift to Davis from the government of France.

Another item in the collection is a Victorian-style factory time clock that Davis detested as a teen-ager when she worked at a factory in Lowell, where she was born. The time-keeping device



Bette Davis. (Reuters wirephoto)

irked her so much that she tracked it down 60 years later and donated it to the archive.

Davis also kept a story about her life written by her mother, Ruth Favour Davis.

"Bette Davis, christened Ruth Elizabeth Davis, was born on April 5th, 1908. Nothing happened of importance to herald her arrival," the story begins.

But in a later passage, the elder Davis describes how her daughter once was playing Santa Claus in school, and her costume caught fire from candles on a Christmas tree. Her face was burned and she had no eyebrows left.

"She told me later that for the next few moments she kept her eyes closed saying to herself, 'I'll make them think I'm blind,'" her mother wrote. "Even then she was reaching for the limelight, even when she was in pain and even at the expense of the people who loved her."

It was when Davis reached the limelight of Hollywood that her career blossomed, and likewise her memorabilia starts to burst from the scrapbooks, with articles filling many pages, and some clippings overlapping.

One article, discussing the cost of hoisery in Hollywood, gained entry into Davis' collection because it included a picture of her legs.

Gottlieb, who knew Davis for 26 years and has a portrait of her in his office that was used in "Jezebel," said the actress who won an Academy award for that film never tried to fake modesty.

Davis kept hundreds of congratulatory telegrams, even one in 1937 from a group in New York called Associated Cinema Fans of Westchester Inc. The telegram reads: "Delighted to inform you we have unanimously voted you ideal choice Scarlett O'Hara."

Davis once told an interviewer she had the opportunity to play the much-sought-after lead role in "Gone With The Wind" but unknowingly gave up the chance amid her dispute with Warner Bros.

Davis gained fame with dozens of other movies, and she kept leather-bound scripts that have her name printed in gold.

Massive rally at N-plant

SEABROOK, New Hampshire, Oct. 15. (AP) Hundreds of anti-nuclear protesters, many with their children, in tow, scaled fences around the Seabrook nuclear power plant yesterday as police waited inside to arrest them.

Protesters brought ladders to help them over the 8-foot (2.5 metre) fences that surround the plant. Once inside the plant, the demonstrators sat down.

At the busiest of the six points where protesters climbed the fence, at least 300 people went over, including several children and at least one infant carried over in a backpack-carrier.

Officials estimated 600 to 700 activists were on hand for the rally. Police chief Paul Cronin said a few protesters were arrested, but declined to estimate how many.

Reporters, police and organisers estimated the number of arrests at more than 400.

Among the protesters were David Hills, 35, who brought his 6-year-old daughter, Dana.

"The point of children coming along is (that) so many people want to hide their children from what's going on in the world," he said.

Asked why she came to the demonstration, Dana said, "because I didn't like Seabrook." Asked why, she said, "because people can die."

More than 180 people were arrested yesterday at anti-abortion demonstrations in front of clinics in Chicago and Boston, authorities said.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

YORK, Pennsylvania: A slender burglar tried to slide into a restaurant through its rooftop ventilation system and got so hung up on protruding screws that he had to scream for help, police said.

"He was scuffling up there trying to get out, cussing and carrying on," said David Foster, manager of The Horn and Horn Seafood.

When the intruder began to yell, Gail Shank of the restaurant's cleaning crew called the authorities. Officers and fire-fighters could hear the screams as they arrived early on Wednesday, fire chief Paul L. Schaefer said.

Police said Michael Charles Miller, 33, was extracted from the foot-wide (3-metre-wide) ventilation system and charged with burglary and criminal trespassing. (AP)

Inmates charged Phone scam

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 15. (UPI): Inmates at some state prisons charged some \$12,000 in telephone calls to unsuspecting guards at one Pennsylvania correctional facility, authorities said yesterday.

Capt. Michael Lutz said someone obtained credit information and the social security numbers of six guards at the Dallas state Correctional Institution in Luzerne County and passed it on to accomplices in Philadelphia.

Using that information, the accomplices had 12 telephones with conference calling capability installed in various locations in Philadelphia. Prisoners would call those numbers collect and their calls would be relayed throughout the United States, authorities said. The guards got the bills.

SUMTER, South Carolina: A vandal broke into a pigeon farm and strangled some 300 baby birds valued at about \$8,000.

The squabs were apparently killed on Monday and discovered on Tuesday morning at the Palmetto Pigeon Plant, said general manager Tony Barwick. (AP)

ATHENS, Greece: Composer Mikis Theodorakis has accepted an offer by the International Olympic Committee president to create an anthem for the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona.

Theodorakis, 64, who won international recognition for scoring *Zorba the Greek* and other films, met with IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch on Wednesday to discuss the proposal.

Theodorakis said the composition will be presented first in Athens in spring 1992. (AP)

HARARE, Zimbabwe: A veteran big game hunter was gored to death by an elephant after a group of people he was escorting disturbed a herd of the beasts, officials said on Thursday.

The body of Alan Lowe was found in the northwest Zimbabwe bush on October 6.

Lowe, a Zimbabwean in his 50s, had ordered the party of hunters into their vehicle for safety during an encounter with the herd of elephant cows and calves, government wildlife officials said.

Lowe then crept back to see when it would be clear to travel on through the bush. That was the last the other hunters saw of him.

When he didn't return, a tracker went looking for him and found the body, gored in the back.

"The jumbo must have sneaked up on him from behind while he was watching the rest of the herd," the wildlife official said. "Alan was a very experienced hunter." (AP)

Centre to treat teenage satanists

CHICAGO, Illinois, Oct. 15. (AP): Psychiatrists and psychologists at Hartgrove Hospital balk at being called modern-day exorcists, but they are creating one of the first US treatment programmes to wean teenagers from satanism.

"In no way are we comparable to the old exorcists," said Michael Weiss, an adolescent psychologist at the hospital.

"The kids who will be admitted will be here primarily because of their behavioural and emotional problems. No one will be hospitalised for strange beliefs or unusual values that we would disagree with," Weiss said.

"I don't think there is any doubt satanism is a growing problem," said social worker Dale Trahan, who has been researching satanic beliefs for three years and was contracted to organize the programme for Hartgrove's new centre for the treatment of ritualistic deviance.

"We don't know the percentages because so much is secretive, but we do know... it is beginning to show up throughout the country," Trahan said.

More such programmes will be needed as police, teachers and parents learn to recognise involvement, said Jerry Simandl, a Chicago police youth officer and expert on satanic cults, who has helped train Hartgrove staff.

"That's been the problem. There aren't places to take the kids," Simandl said.

In the programme, teen-agers will spend four to eight weeks as inpatients and undergo individual and group counselling. Most of the youths will be admitted voluntarily.

Hartgrove's facility — to be staffed by specially trained psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and nurses — should receive its first patients in two to four weeks, and initially will take as many as six patients at a time, Weiss said. A similar programme exists at Denver, Colorado's Bethesda psychiatric.



The new programme will seek to undermine satanism's underlying belief system, which hampers conventional treatment.

Satanism "gives them the promise of power and privilege beyond anything they ever imagined. Not only can they have everything they want... but can do so while totally indulging themselves in drugs, sex or any momentary pleasure," Weiss said.

"We try to help them see how unrealistic the promises are. Our ultimate goal is to make them able to function in the world so they can have a reasonable and successful life for themselves and not harm anyone else."

Youngsters involved in satanism often exhibit unusual behaviour, which can include suicide attempts, violent rages, rejection of family, drug use, sexual promiscuity, a drastic drop in grades, intensified rebellion, a strong interest in heavy-metal music, role-playing games or horror films, and the use of occult symbols such as "666" or upside-down crosses, Trahan said.

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INTERNATIONAL

Gunmen kill cop in Bogota violence

BOGOTA, Oct 15, (AP): Gunmen killed an off-duty policeman and an explosion injured another officer in Medellin on a day when three drug traffickers were extradited to the United States, authorities said.

The extraditions yesterday brought to four the number of suspected narcotics figures sent to the United States since the Colombian government declared war on the cocaine trade in mid-August.

A homemade bomb exploded yesterday at a national police installation in Medellin, slightly injuring an officer, said a spokesman for the city's police. The blast damaged a police vehicle repair shop and several parked cars.

Hours earlier, unidentified men shot and killed a 29-year-old off-duty Medellin police officer, the spokesman said on condition of anonymity.

Since the government began its crackdown on the nation's drug cartels, there have been 162 bombings. Police have blamed drug traffickers for the blasts, which have killed 11 people.

On Friday night, two gunmen killed a broadcast newsmen in front of his home in Monteria, about 300 miles (483 kms) north of Bogota. He was the fourth journalist killed in four days.

A national police spokesman said 57-year-old William Bendeck Olivella, the director of a local radio news programme, was shot in the head several times. His attackers fled on a motorcycle.

Bogota's El Tiempo newspaper reported that Bendeck Olivella had been a "passionate" critic of the country's drug traffickers and guerrilla groups.

No group claimed responsibility for the killing, but it was the latest in a series of attacks on journalists, government officials and judges blamed on drug lords.

Three media employees were killed on Tuesday in Medellin, home of Colombia's most notorious cocaine cartel. Slain were two employees of Bogota's El Espectador newspaper and a magazine director.

A group calling itself The Extraditables, believed to be the assassination squad for the Medellin cartel, claimed responsibility for the slayings of the El Espectador workers. In an anonymous phone call to the paper, a man saying he represented the group said it would kill the rest of the paper's staff in the city if they did not leave within three days.

Satellites
The Central Intelligence Agency and other federal groups have begun using satellites to spy on the maze of clandestine air strips, roads and factories run by the illicit drug industry in South America, reports said.

According to the New York Times, the agencies are also using military and civilian satellites to locate remote areas under cultivation with drug crops, and they now plan to take on the more difficult job of actively tracking ships and planes that smuggle narcotics into the United States.

Concern
A Guatemalan congressman said yesterday legislators were preparing to intensify their battle against drug traffickers who have made the Central American country an international transit point.

"It is a nationalist fight and a real concern to avoid having Guatemala converted into an international drug trafficking point," said Congressman Elian Dano Acuna.

Cocaine case
A federal grand jury charged the crew of a ship that was carrying a record six tons of cocaine when the coast guard boarded it in the Gulf of Mexico on Oct 2.

A woman and eight men were charged Friday with possessing cocaine with intent to distribute it. Conviction could bring up to life in prison because of the amount of cocaine involved, said assistant US attorney Mike McMahon.

He said the crew could be charged later with importing cocaine if papers found on the 185-foot Zedon Sea indicate the drug was destined for the United States.

The 12,000 pounds (5,443 kilograms) was the largest maritime cocaine seizure by American authorities, the Coast Guard said.

Acquitted
A Jamaican tourism official was acquitted of marijuana possession charges by a judge who said the official may not have known the drugs were in his luggage.

Noel Mignott, 38, deputy-director of the Jamaica tourist board, said he was unaware his baggage contained a gram of marijuana on July 23, when he attempted to board an Air Jamaica flight to New York.

Alleged Soviet spy claims he tried to fool KGB

WASHINGTON, Oct 15, (AP): A man arrested by the US Federal Bureau of Investigation for passing information to the Soviets said he is a former marine and air force communications officer who tried to fool the KGB, a published report said today.

Frank Arnold Nesbitt, 44, was arrested yesterday at a hotel in suburban Washington. He was charged with communication and delivery and the attempt to communicate and deliver unauthorized information to agents of the Soviet government, the FBI said in a brief statement. No other details were released.

But Nesbitt, in a lengthy interview with the Washington Post published in today's editions, said he did not tell Soviet agents anything useful and informed the FBI of his dealings with the KGB soon after he left Moscow earlier this year. He said he wanted to be a double agent for the US government.

The Post said Nesbitt approached the paper Friday because he was unhappy with the response he received from the FBI after he offered his services as a spy following a return from an 11-day stay in Moscow.

Nesbitt was being held pending a preliminary hearing tomorrow.

He told the newspaper he left his family and a computer job in Memphis in June to go to Central America, where he wanted to buy small parcels of land. The paper said Nesbitt's story could not be independently verified.

That didn't work out, Nesbitt told the paper, so he went to Guatemala City and then Bolivia in August where he met a Soviet official travelling with a Russian ballet group.

The meeting, which Nesbitt said was "purely happenstance," ultimately led to Nesbitt's trip to Moscow, where he said the KGB tried to recruit him for espionage.



Correspondent takes refuge

Anton Caro, the correspondent in Panama of the Spanish newspaper El Pais, sits in a room in the Spanish embassy in Panama City Oct 13. Shortly after seeking refuge there, the government ordered his arrest for allegedly publishing false news. (Reuters wirephoto)

Noriega alert after coup bid

He can trust none

PANAMA, City, Oct 15, (AP): Although Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega has survived another coup attempt, the damage inflicted by the revolt from within the ranks of his defence forces is expected to take some time to repair.

Some political observers say the damage may be irreparable. "Noriega must know by now that he cannot trust anyone around him," declared Ricardo Arias Calderon, leader of the Panamanian opposition.

Even Noriega, de facto ruler of Panama as chief of the defence forces, has said he is on guard against any further attempts.

"The psychological war will go on trying to involve our own forces," Noriega told supporters last week. "We must be prepared. They will not catch us by surprise again."

The Oct. 3 barracks coup attempt apparently was a painful one for Noriega.

The betrayal was staged by young officers, the men he has said will carry Panama into the next century after the defence and the control of the Panama Canal are turned over in 1999 by the United States.

Since the failed coup in which 11 soldiers died — some critics claim after the troops had surrendered — Noriega is believed to be considering ways to restructure the defence forces.

He had developed the military into what he thought was a loyal unit with young officers brought in from the lower income classes.

Noriega blames the United

States for all his troubles including international isolation owing to his poor image abroad as well as a noisy but ineffectual opposition at home.

Noriega was indicted in 1980 in the United States on charges of drug trafficking and money laundering. Efforts by the United States to oust him, including economic sanctions against Panama, have failed.

In May, international observers said the opposition won presidential elections in Panama. But the government annulled the results and the United States ever since has openly encouraged the military to overthrow Noriega.

Yet, when the young rebels took action on Oct 3, US soldiers in battle gear watched as the coup failed while they waited for orders from Washington.

It was the second barracks coup against Noriega. In 1988, Noriega quickly put down a bloodless March 1988 rebellion led by his chief of police.

This time the cut was deep. The rebellious unit was his headquarters security company, led by its commander. It was crushed in five hours with the help of two loyal elite units that came to the rescue of the besieged commander in the defence headquarters.

A political foe of Panamanian Noriega is suing Eastern Airlines for \$2 million for allegedly turning him over to Noriega's security forces last year, the Miami Herald reported yesterday.

The meeting represents a crucial test for Director-General Federico Mayor, a Spanish biochemist and former education minister who took over as head of the troubled United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation two years ago.

He must see that the new, more pragmatic programme he has proposed for the first half of the 1990s gets approved without any of the ideological overtones that led to US and British withdrawal in

S. Africa political arena changed

JOHANNESBURG, Oct 15, (AP): Blacks remain disenfranchised and the white minority remains in charge, but other aspects of South African politics have changed markedly in the quarter-century since Walter Sisulu and his colleagues went to jail.

Black trade unions, banned at the time that Sisulu, Nelson Mandela and other African National Congress leaders received life prison sentences in 1964, now claim more than 2 million members and have the power to cripple the country's biggest industries.

A network of militant anti-apartheid groups has formed in black townships across South Africa, linking churches, students, women and workers in an organisational framework that was not available to Sisulu and Mandela.

Sisulu's hometown, the vast township of Soweto, remains an all-black ghetto providing a workforce for Johannesburg. But it now includes posh two-storey homes as well as cramped matchbox houses and shanties. More Sowetans now commute to work in black-owned taxis than in white-owned buses.

In Johannesburg itself, several inner-city neighbourhoods have become thoroughly multiracial, even though the laws mandating residential segregation remain on the books.

When Sisulu went to jail, virtually every type of public facility in Johannesburg was segregated — toilets, elevators, parks, libraries, theatres, restaurants. Patrons at post offices waited in segregated lines.

Those segregation policies crumbled one by one, with the city's final segregated amenities being opened up last month. Sisulu can now ride buses, swim in swimming pools and go to recreation centres that formerly were reserved for whites.

Segregated facilities still exist in some other parts of the country, but the government has hinted that the law allowing such segregation may be headed for abolition.

Public hospitals and schools remain segregated, but the number of multiracial private schools has mushroomed since 1964. Many more blacks have moved into professional and technical jobs, including skilled mining jobs that until two years ago were exclusively for whites.

South Africa's international isolation has intensified steadily since 1964, the first year the country was barred from the Olympics. It now is excluded from international competition in almost every sport.

Anti-apartheid activism among South African whites was rare in 1964, outside of a small circle of communist-oriented intellectuals aligned with the ANC.

There was one anti-apartheid legislator, Helen Suzman, in parliament. Now there are 34, with the anti-apartheid Democratic Party having won 20 per cent of the votes in the Sept 6 general election.

Whites produce lively anti-apartheid newspapers, perform in anti-apartheid rock 'n' roll bands and, in increasing numbers, journey abroad to confer with the ANC's exiled leaders.

Major changes also have taken place within the governing National Party. In 1964, it unashamedly touted its "grand apartheid" policy of relocating blacks into rural tribal homelands, theorising that they could satisfy their desire for political rights within those enclaves while whites tightened their control over the other 87 per cent of the country.

The homelands still exist, but the National Party now acknowledges that the blacks in "white" South Africa are permanent residents who must be given a political role.

South Africa frees top ANC leaders

Sisulu, comrades plan Lusaka trip

SOWETO, Oct 15, (AP): Walter Sisulu, senior leader of the African National Congress and colleague of Nelson Mandela, came home at dawn today after 26 years in prison. Seven other political prisoners also were freed.

Mandela, the most prominent jailed leader of the outlawed ANC, remains in prison, although his release within the next few months is widely expected.

Sisulu, 77, arrived under police escort at his home in Soweto and

embraced his wife, Albertina, an activist who had been under severe police restrictions until Friday. Youths who had been waiting for Sisulu lifted the white-haired, bespectacled black nationalist atop their shoulders before he went inside.

"I feel very well," Sisulu told reporters. "I am inspired."

Also freed early today were the seven other prisoners whose impending unconditional release was announced on Tuesday by President F.W. de Klerk.



Mpepha, is greeted by the supporters as he leaves Cape Town hospital today. (Reuters wirephoto)



Sisulu salutes a crowd of friends and supporters outside his home today. (Reuters wirephoto)



Ahmed Kathrada is carried on the shoulders of supporters shortly after his release.

"There can be no real joy about our release when we think of the comrades we left behind, especially our comrade, Nelson Mandela," Sisulu told a news conference attended by all seven ANC leaders.

The news conference at the Holy Cross Anglican Church in Soweto marked the first authorised public appearance in South Africa by ANC leaders, aside from court testimony, since the guerrilla movement was outlawed in 1960.

Sisulu called on anti-apartheid groups "to pressurize the government in every possible way."

Asked what political role the recently released prisoners would play, Sisulu said: "Our future policy will be determined by the leadership of the (ANC) movement, both locally and abroad."

These include four other men arrested in 1963 and sentenced to life prison terms in 1964 along with Sisulu and Mandela — Andrew Mlangeni, 63, Elias Mosekaleli, 65, Ahmed Kathrada, 60, and Raymond Mhlaba, 68, as well as ANC leader, Wilton Mkwayi, 67, who was sentenced to a life prison term in a separate 1964 trial.

The group also includes 80-year-old ANC activist Oscar Mpepha, who had been hospitalised in Cape Town, and Jafta Masemola, 58, a member of the Pan-Africanist Congress guerrilla movement who lives outside Pretoria.

Crowd
Mpepha was serving a five-year prison term for terrorism. Masemola was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1963.

Sisulu, who arrived home in a gray suit and blue tie, emerged after about three hours to speak to reporters and give a clenched-fist salute to a crowd of 300 well-wishers outside his home, some waving ANC flags.

Sisulu conferred at his home with several anti-apartheid leaders who have been making arrangements for the prisoners' homecoming. These include Cyril Ramaphosa, leader of the National Union of Mine Workers, and Murphy Morobe, a senior official of the banned United Democratic Front Coalition.

Consultations
Ramaphosa and Morobe said most of all the eight former prisoners would participate in a joint news conference, but no time was announced. Several of the freed ANC leaders also are expected to apply for passports to travel to Lusaka, Zambia, for consultations with the guerrilla movement's exiled leadership.

Although the ANC remains outlawed, the release of Sisulu and his colleagues has been widely viewed as a tacit acknowledgement by the government of the movement's influence and popularity among South Africa's black majority.

Even relatively conservative black leaders have said they will reject any negotiations with the government unless the ANC is legalised and its jailed leaders freed.

In recent weeks, the government has permitted ANC flags and posters to be displayed openly at mass protests, something not allowed before De Klerk took power in mid-August.

ANC symbols were particularly in evidence yesterday, when more than 100,000 blacks joined in marches nation-wide protesting government policy and celebrating the imminent release of the eight prisoners.

Mandela, 71, conferred with Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee and other government officials before the announcement of the prisoner releases. There has been increasing speculation that Mandela does not want to go free until the government takes further steps to legalise ANC political activity.

Trial A-bomb killed many Soviets

MOSCOW, Oct 15, (Reuters): The deliberate detonation of an atomic bomb during a 1954 military exercise in the Ural mountains killed and injured large numbers of servicemen, a report published yesterday said.

The government daily Izvestia published the account of an officer who took part in the exercise, but it gave no exact casualty toll. The officer said many survivors suffered long-term effects of exposure to radiation.

The use of the bomb to test troops' battle readiness was first disclosed last month by the army daily Krasnaya Zvezda. That account had said there were no injuries.

"All these 35 years I have fought for both my health and dignity, along with the few who came out of it alive," Vladimir Bentsanov told Izvestia.

Bentsanov said participants had not even considered the possibility of radiation for several hours until the evening.

"Everyone had dry throats, headaches and tapping and ringing of the ears," Izvestia wrote. "The head of the chemical service began checking soldiers with a metre. Volodya (Vladimir) remembers him saying the number 50."

The first major effects of the blast on servicemen appeared about a year later — spinal injuries, pain in joints and impaired vision.

United States' return to Unesco may hinge on outcome of conference

PARIS, Oct 15, (AP): Unesco opens a month-long meeting Tuesday to chart a future course, but the United States says the conference is highly unlikely to bring about its return to the troubled agency.

The 159-nation organisation also will discuss a request for membership from the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The United States has said it would not rejoin if the PLO becomes a member.

However, the conference is expected to adopt a recommendation from Unesco's executive board to

postpone any decision on this issue until 1991.

The meeting represents a crucial test for Director-General Federico Mayor, a Spanish biochemist and former education minister who took over as head of the troubled United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation two years ago.

He must see that the new, more pragmatic programme he has proposed for the first half of the 1990s gets approved without any of the ideological overtones that led to US and British withdrawal in

the mid-1980s.

On the PLO's request for membership, Mayor has said the UN General Assembly should decide such issues, not Unesco. But he has promised to involve the Palestine observer mission more closely in Unesco activities.

The United States and Britain, which between them provided 30 per cent of Unesco's budget, pulled out because they said Unesco had become too political, spent too much money and was poorly

managed. Singapore also left, saying it could spend its dues better elsewhere.

Some 2,000 delegates will attend the biennial meeting of the general conference, the organisation's highest decision-making body.

Last month US Assistant Secretary of State John R. Bolton told a congressional committee that it was "extremely unlikely" the United States would rejoin the world body if its current draft plan for 1990-1995 was approved.

Soviet party plans change

MOSCOW, Oct. 15, (Reuters). The Soviet communist party has outlined plans for sweeping changes in executive positions and making procedures within its ranks more democratic.

The reforms, proposed at a meeting of the party's commission on party construction, are part of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's plans to overhaul the party in runup to its next congress in a year's time.

The commission, as reported by the official Tass news agency, said major changes among its executives had become "of growing importance." Its recommendations are to be submitted to the party's policy-making central committee.

"The Communist Party as the vanguard of society, the initiator and guarantor of irreversible revolutionary changes and nation-wide consensus is to renew its personnel policy and carry it out on a democratic basis," it said.

The commission pledged changes to election procedures of junior officials, which would no longer require the approval of "party committees" at enterprises and all other state bodies. Secretaries of party bodies at local level will also be directly elected at public meetings instead of through intermediary committees.

It also said there would no longer be automatic places on elected party bodies on the basis of a candidate's other positions. Ministers and other officials were often placed on senior bodies like the central committee without question.

■ More than three times as many Soviet women die in childbirth than in the United States and other developed countries, Soviet television reported yesterday.

The main evening news, quoting what it said were statistics never before released, said the death rate was 35 women for every 100,000 births.

■ The Soviet health service has come under increasing fire in recent years for poor hygiene, obsolete equipment and low-paid, unmotivated staff.

■ Mental retardation is rising among Soviet children because of worsening alcoholism among parents, a newspaper reported.

Enrollment at a special education school in the southern Russian city of Oryol has quintupled during a period when the city's population only doubled, the daily Sovetskaya Rossiya reported.

The newspaper attributed the rising retardation rate to alcoholism.

Other recent Soviet media reports have focused on baldness, deformities and diseases in children living in polluted areas and on the toll radiation has taken on babies on the Chukotka peninsula in the Soviet northeast.

E. Germans ditch Communist Party

1,200 in Warsaw await travel papers

BERLIN, Oct. 15, (UPI). A West German daily today claimed 20,000 people resigned from East Germany's Communist Party in the past two weeks, amid increasing pressure for reform, and speculation the country's hardline communist leader will be forced to resign soon.

In an article released today in advance of publication, the Bild daily said the plenary of the party's central committee would hold an extraordinary session on Thursday or Friday, to discuss the current crisis in East Germany and the future of several leading politburo members.

The paper said that in addition to the country's leader, 77-year-old Erich Honecker, several other key politburo members may be forced to resign.

It said one of those whose position was at stake was 82-year-old Erich Mielke, who heads the state security police that was involved in violently crushing massive pro-democracy demonstrations one week ago.

Reds losing their identity

Tough times ahead

LONDON, Oct. 15, (AP). Cast adrift by the Gorbachev revolution, many of Western Europe's communist parties are groping for ideological stability, knowing they can no longer count on Moscow for guidance.

The upheaval in the Soviet Union, the shift to democracy in Hungary and Poland, and the flight of refugees from East Germany have provoked responses from different parties ranging from congratulations to embarrassment.

With the Bolshevik bog being replaced in Western minds by the benign image of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, some communists believe they can win new hearts and minds and reverse their electoral decline.

Conversely, others fear that communism is losing its identity and becoming a mere adjunct to Western-style socialism.

"What we're witnessing is the breakup of the old communist culture," says Martin Jacques, editor of the British Communist journal Marxism Today.

"Every Communist Party is in flux as a result," said Jacques in an interview. "Some will survive, metamorphose." And those that don't? "There's a very good chance that the result will be oblivion."

Communism in Western Europe has been in schism since the 1950s, marked by periodic watersheds of what the Austrian communist Ernst Fischer once denounced as "Pazerkommunismus," or tank Communism.

The crushing of the 1956 Hungarian uprising, the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968, its entry into Afghanistan in December 1979, each of these events forced communists to take a clear stand for or against the Soviet line, and often ended in a party split.

But with Gorbachev's openness to pluralism, there simply is no longer a clear Soviet line.

For doctrinaire parties, "the Soviet Union was like their god. So what happens when the Pope, as it were, turns on them...? Gorbachev has clearly encouraged reforming forces within those parties, and every hardline party has been thrown into crisis to some degree or other," Jacques said in an interview.

The larger communist parties have managed, in varying measure, to adapt to the hectic pace set by Gorbachev. Those in Italy, France and Spain can now claim they saw "glasnost" and "perestroika" coming, and prepared the ground with Eurocommunism, a 1970s attempt to reconcile communist orthodoxy with life in a Western parliamentary democracy.

For the West, Eurocommunism raised the specter of elected communists sitting at the cabinet tables of NATO-aligned countries. But that has happened only in France, from 1981 to 1984 under President Francois Mitterrand, and for three months of this year in Greece.

The Italian party, the largest in the West, actually supports Italy's membership in North Atlantic Treaty Organization, but has been barred from government coalitions since 1947.

Its vote has declined, from 34.4 per cent in 1976 to 26.6 per cent in 1987, and it is seeking a more youthful image, even toying with the idea of dumping "communist" from its name. The French and Portuguese parties have also seen their support slump.

In Spain, the communists have been trying since 1986 to shed their hard-left image, joining forces with other left-wing parties and no longer displaying the hammer-and-sickle flag at public meetings.

The Portuguese party now accepts the Western socialist concept of a mixed economy.

The British party, always marginal, has been further weakened by a split into hardliners and the free-thinking set whose views are expressed by Jacques' magazine.

The paper, quoting sources in East Berlin, said both the central committee and the politburo were "flooded" with resolutions and demands for change from party and workers' organizations.

It said 20,000 people had resigned in the past two weeks from the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, SED — the ruling Communist Party.

East Germany has faced one of its worst crises in its 40 years history, marked by a massive migration to the West, a mushrooming pro-democracy movement and massive demonstrations.

After violently crushing the demonstrations, that coincided with celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the East German state, the authorities issued several conciliatory statements, released demonstrators and joined calls for change.

The sharp switch in policies contrasted with Honecker's repeated rejection of the type of reforms that have swept the Soviet Union, Poland and Hungary.

Honecker eventually also called on Friday for fundamental change, while at the same time stressing continuity of his brand of staunch communism.

Meanwhile, a pro-democracy movement that has refused official recognition, yesterday held its first national co-ordination meeting in East Berlin, in spite of official warnings such a gathering was illegal, opposition sources said.

The sources said the movement, New Forum, formed just over one month ago, had already collected 25,000 signatures of support.

About 400 East German refugees arrived in Warsaw this weekend, joining 800 others waiting for travel papers from their government allowing them to emigrate to the West, East German refugees said.

In Bonn, government sources said they expected the passes to be issued gradually by East Germany's Warsaw embassy over a period of days beginning on Monday to avoid a mass exodus. The asylum-seekers, who arrive in the first instance at West Germany's embassy in Warsaw, are being housed in residences and holiday camps in and around Warsaw.

The governments of East Germany, Poland and West Germany, meanwhile, were discussing how the refugees would journey to West Germany, with air travel one possibility.

Two special trains took some 1,500 East Germans from Warsaw to West Germany last week but the Bonn sources said East Berlin would not provide the trains again.

The sources said it was not clear if East Germany would expel the refugees or grant normal exit visas.

It was also unclear for how long exit papers would be issued to those who continued to use the West German embassy in Warsaw as an escape route.

Polish diplomatic sources, however, indicated that the issue of emigration papers by the East German embassy was likely to become a permanent arrangement.

■ The flight of some 50,000 disenfranchised East Germans to the West in the past month could cost East Germany billions of marks in lost income, according to an East German academic.

"Humanity? Let's talk about money," Professor Peter Thal said in Tuesday's edition of Freiheit, the Communist Party daily for the southern industrial city of Halle.

It was available in East Berlin today and was a break with the previous media silence on the loss incurred through the westward flow via Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

Havel awarded West German peace prize

FRANKFURT, Oct. 15, (UPI). Czechoslovakian dramatist and human rights activist Vaclav Havel was today awarded the peace prize of the West German book trade, but could not attend the ceremony because he is barred from travelling.

"I deeply regret that the Czechoslovakian authorities have not allowed your personal acceptance of the award in Frankfurt," said West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher, adding that he had personally intervened in an attempt to have Havel's travel ban lifted.

In a telegram he sent Havel after the prize was

announced, Chancellor Helmut Kohl said the writer's "exemplary dedication encourages all, who in spite of many setbacks, believe in the triumph of freedom and humanity and dedicate themselves to their establishment."

The prize, traditionally awarded at the end of the annual Frankfurt Book Fair, is among the most prestigious awards in West Germany.

Havel, best known for his essay "Living the Truth" has been banned from publishing for over two decades, because of his critical views of the hardline communist leadership in his country.



EEC foreign ministers meet

Foreign ministers of the 12 European Economic Community states concluded an informal meeting at the "Chateau d'Esclimont", concentrating their discussions on the situation in the Eastern bloc and the fight against drug trafficking.

According to official sources, the ministers, who opened their meeting yesterday, discussed the outlines of a declaration on relations with the Eastern bloc to be adopted in the next December European summit in Strasbourg.

The declaration is expected to establish basics of

a "global" aid to the Eastern countries, especially those engaged in a reform process the sources said.

They added that the ministers have also examined ways to increase the economic aid given to Poland and Hungary, who have already embarked on a reform plan.

The informal meeting also studied in yesterday's session a French proposal for co-ordinating the states' co-ordination in the fight against drug trafficking.

The French report which will be presented at the Strasbourg summit, stipulates that the European Community structure to be operated by the common rules, that the twelve.

The ministers are expected to discuss the situation in the Eastern bloc, and the situation in Southern Africa.

Group photograph of the EEC foreign ministers during the meeting. (Reuters photograph)

Dublin paper names UK spies

DUBLIN, Oct. 15, (AP). An Irish newspaper today published the names of seven alleged British intelligence officers it said were included in a leaked security document on British undercover activities in West Germany.

The Sunday Tribune identified seven men who allegedly were members of Britain's MI5 and MI6 espionage agencies and gave details of British intelligence operations in West Germany from 1982 to 1984.

The newspaper said the nine-page document includes names of Irish people in West Germany who were hired by the British as informers, but did not identify them.

The Irish Republican Army's political wing, Sinn Fein, threatened last week to publish the names of the alleged informants in its official newspaper, An Phoblacht, on Thursday.

The weekly newspaper alleged last week that the informers were recruited from the Irish community in West Germany in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

A rash of leaked security files in the last six weeks has exposed Northern Ireland's security forces to accusations of colluding with Protestant murder squads. The police force has called in detectives from England to conduct an independent inquiry into the source of the leaks.

The IRA is fighting to drive the British out of Northern Ireland and unite the Protestant-dominated province with the Irish republic, which is overwhelmingly Roman Catholic.

■ The British Ministry of defence refused today to comment on the accuracy of a report claiming that the IRA has obtained classified documents about the British secret service's counter-terrorism effort.

But a spokesman for the department described the report by a Dublin today's newspaper as "irresponsible."

■ Two more Ulster Defence Regiment soldiers were charged yesterday with stealing photographic documents in a continuing investigation of intelligence leaks linked to assassinations.

A total of eight members of the largely Protestant army unit have now been charged in the investigation of leaks from within the security services. Protestant extremists allegedly have used the leaked documents to select assassination targets.

Thatcherism in trouble

Labour beginning to challenge

LONDON, Oct. 15, (AP). Last week's annual Conservative Party convention revealed Thatcherism to be in trouble and striving for a kinder, more caring image.

Conservative conventions are traditionally designed less to thrash out policies than to cheer the leader and unite the troops. But this one seemed jinxed.

With the pound sagging and inflation resurgent, interest rates were pushed up to 15 per cent, an eight-year high, just five days before the convention opened in the seaside town of Blackpool.

Then, as Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was winding up the convention with a rousing defence of her record, it was announced that the annual inflation rate had crept up from 7.3 to 7.6 per cent.

To compound Conservative worries, the opposition Labour Party has been topping the opinion polls for the past four months with a lead that averages seven points.

That's normal against a government in mid-term, say Conservative loyalists. But after a decade in the minority, Labour is beginning to look like a credible challenger again.

At Labour's convention the previous week, vote-losing doctrines such as unilateral nuclear disarmament were dumped and the party's militant left wing, which had frightened off many voters in the past, was thoroughly sidelined.

Moreover, the centrist bloc, which had helped keep Thatcher in power by siphoning votes from Labour, has disintegrated, and Britain is back to straight two-party politics.

None of this means an imminent end to Thatcherism, with its hatred for socialism, distrust of trade unions and faith in market forces.

No election need be held until mid-1992, and Thatcher, who turned 64 on Friday, looked her usual vigorous, combative self.

Even after 10 years in office — an exceptionally long time by British standards — she remains securely in charge, revered by her supporters as the warrior who vanquished the trade unions, liberated the marketplace from socialist regulation and restored Britain's self-esteem.

But even her best friends are telling her that she's in trouble. When interest rates rose yet again, the conservative Daily Mail newspaper demanded the resignation of Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson, who only a year earlier was being hailed by Conservatives as a miracle-worker.

The pro-Thatcher Sunday Times reversed its past assessments and concluded bluntly that "there was no British economic miracle in the 1980s after all."

Once again, it said, the country faced "the perennial problems of the British economy — rising prices, balance of payments deficits ... inflationary wage demands, slow growth and the huge structural rigidities which hold Britain back."

At the convention, many delegates were asking why, after 10 years of Thatcher's harsh medicine, inflation and high interest rates are still around.

"Many people are feeling rather let down," delegate Peter Brown said. "They are rather upset that after 10 years of Conservative rule we should have got into these rather difficult times."

In the longer term, the convention was significant for the sig-

nals it sent out that Thatcherism itself is preparing for change.

Speakers seemed at pains to present a more compassionate brand of politics, even though that implies spending more taxpayers' money on public services and would have been regarded with suspicion by Thatcherite purists.

There was an unexpected government pledge of £1 billion (\$1.6 billion) to cushion Britons against an unpopular new property tax.

Thatcher assured delegates that the cherished national health service was not going to be "privatised" on American lines, as some had feared. An expected promise to sell off the state-owned railroads never materialised.

NEW REGIONAL MANAGER AT BRITISH AIRWAYS

British Airways and its local General Sales Agent, Al Ghanim Industries, today welcome to Kuwait Mr Tony Broadfoot, the new Middle East General Manager for British Airways. A business lunch was hosted by Alghanim attended by Mr. Abdulla M. Fakira, Vice President and Mr. Monzer Najia, Manager Alghanim Travel. Mr Broadfoot will be based in Bahrain and succeeds Mr Peter Spencer who moves to the airline's head office as General Manager and Deputy Head of Customer Services.

"We welcome Mr Broadfoot to Kuwait at a time when British Airways has consolidated its position in the market," says Laurie O'Toole, BA Manager Kuwait.

"We operate daily flights to and from London, eastbound services to Delhi, Madras and Karachi and have an on-board service tailored to the needs of our passengers that includes appropriate cuisine, sub-titled in-flight movies, an Arabic in-flight magazine and a special Arab cabin crew."



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For interview, please contact
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2467428 / 2445768 / 2423250 / 2423251

UFO sighting an escapism

Upsurge in religious belief in Russia

VORONEZH, Soviet Union, Oct. 15, (Reuters). A rash of UFO sightings in the Soviet Union has much more to do with religious belief, escapism and a newspaper circulation war than with visitors from other planets.

For the past week, Soviet newspapers have entertained the public with stories about contacts with aliens in spacehips, concentrating on an alleged landing in September by a UFO (unidentified flying object) in this central Russian city.

The phenomenon is not new — the press had earlier carried stories of extra-terrestrial activity — but public interest is keen despite the fact that no evidence has emerged to back up the stories other than the statements of a few children.

"Much of it has to do with the tremendous upsurge in religion over the past few years. Russians are by nature deeply religious people and are now desperately looking for something to believe in," said one Western diplomat in Moscow.

Religious belief was heavily discouraged during the rule of Soviet dictator Josef Stalin and only really started to recover after Mikhail Gorbachev came to power and encouraged more freedom of thought.

"I believe the spaceship was a message from Jesus. He was telling us we have to be as innocent as children, which is why only the young saw the spaceship land," said Alexander Mosolov, a member of the local team investigating the Voronezh incident.

The popularity of UFO stories has been matched by the rise to fame of television faith healers such as Anatoly Kaspirovsky and Alan Chumak, both of whom regularly draw huge audiences to their shows.

"Don't forget that in many ways this is a middle ages culture. People are God-fearing, gullible and very, very superstitious. There has always been a belief in the occult here," said a Soviet academic.

Some analysts say Gorbachev's policy of glasnost, or openness in the press, has provided par-

ticularly fertile ground for stories of visits from other planets.

The policy has encouraged the press to discuss many previously taboo subjects, such as Stalin's reign of terror in the 1930s.

"The trouble is that they're running out of fascinating revelations from the past. People know that Stalin was a bad man, but even Lenin had his problems. They need new sensational discoveries and UFOs fit the bill perfectly," one diplomat said.

The rush for exclusive stories has also resulted in a circulation war using tactics which would impress even the hardest of Western popular press editors.

In August, Moscow's Vechernyaya Moskva daily said Chumak would bless the subscription coupon in its Sept. 1 issue, guaranteeing a happy life and other wonderful benefits to those who subscribed using the coupon.

Anxious readers mobbed the capital's newspaper sellers, and on the black market copies of the issue fetched up to 20 times their face value.

The chaotic state of the nation's economy has encouraged many Soviet citizens to revel in stories of UFO visits, temporarily forgetting that the shelves in most shops are practically empty.

"Almost all the news here is very depressing — lack of food, AIDS, corruption and rocketing crime. Flying saucers take people's minds off everyday life. They're good fun," said a Soviet journalist in Voronezh.

Virtually everyone questioned here claims to know of someone who has seen a spaceship or aliens at some stage in the past.

"Rumours are particularly powerful here. Because the state controls the media, rumours are the quickest way of transmitting unofficial news. Unless they are quickly quashed, people tend to assume they are true," said a Soviet physicist.

World



Pope prays

Pope John Paul II prays by the tomb of the Blessed Jacques Desre Laval, a French missionary who worked among freed slaves in 19th century Mauritius and is regarded as a national hero by the multi-racial inhabitants of this Indian Ocean island. (Reuter wirephoto)



Alien landing

Eleven-year-old Lena Sarokina shows a drawing of a spaceship as she meets with members of the local commission to investigate reports of a landing by three-eyed aliens in Voronezh on Sept 27. (Reuter wirephoto)



Catch 'em young

Two young Israeli boys wear tank commander helmets as they play at an Israeli army tank which is part of a large military exhibition in Tel Aviv's municipal square. Every year the army puts on military displays during the Sukkot holiday which attracts thousands of families. (Reuter wirephoto)



Nose for bourbon

Booker Noe, master distiller and a great-grandson of the famous bourbon maker Jim Beam, checks the nose of a rare, uncultivated, straight-from-the-barrel 126 plus proof bourbon named after himself. (Reuter wirephoto)

America

Ammonia leak forces evacuation:

A pizza plant leaked deadly ammonia gas last night, injuring dozens of people and forcing authorities to order a complete evacuation of Wellston, Ohio of 7,500.

Twenty-seven people overcome by the fumes were taken to hospitals and many other residents were given oxygen treatment by paramedics who rushed to the scene from all over the largely rural southeastern quarter of the state.

The ammonia leak at the Pillsbury Co. plant was brought under control by 10:55 pm (2255 GMT today), said mayor John Carey. (AP)

Targets for defeat: Abortion rights activists in Washington, Saturday named Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina and other anti-abortion officials as special targets for defeat in next year's election.

Emboldened by triumphs in Congress and the Florida legislature last week, the National Abortion Rights Action League announced its list at its 20th anniversary conference, NARAL, which has 350,000 members, is the political arm of the pro-choice movement, which advocates a woman's right to choose an abortion.

"We intend to reward our political allies. But we also intend to punish our enemies," said Kate Michelman, NARAL's executive director. "To elect officials, we say: If you remain out of step on abortion rights, you will soon be out of a job." (AP)

Oregon senator seeks 5th term: US Sen. Mark Hatfield said last night he would run for a fifth term. The announcement by the Oregon Republican ended months of speculation about the plans of the state's most popular politician.

"I've come to the conclusion that ours is an unfinished agenda," Hatfield told about 350 supporters.

Hatfield said he played a key role in fashioning the recent congressional compromise on harvest of old growth timber. Environmentalists had initially opposed harvesting any virgin timber on federal land; the compromise allows some logging.

Hatfield, 67, also said that if re-elected he would work to provide better health care, to step up the fight against drugs, and to slow the nuclear arms race. (AP)

Pilot lands in hayfield: A pilot landed on a mowed hayfield he mistook for a grass airstrip, asked a farmer for direction and then crashed his plane as he tried to take off.

Pilot George R. Kern and his passenger, Donnie Spencer, walked away uninjured Friday from the wreckage of the single-engine Cessna.

Kern was about a mile (kilometre) away when he touched down in the hayfield, officials said. "He went to a farmhouse, asked where he was at and tried to take off again," said Woodson county deputy sheriff Howard Kahler. (AP)

Bus overturns in Vegas: At least 30 people were injured when a tour bus overturned in downtown Las Vegas in an accident involving a tractor-trailer rig, authorities said.

The bus overturned yesterday on Interstate 15, the Las Vegas fire department said. Paramedics took 30 to 40 people to hospitals, said a dispatcher, who had no other details and declined to give his name.

The tractor-trailer also overturned, but it was not known whether the two vehicles collided. At the time of the accident, a light rain was falling, said Sgt Harold Cook, security supervisor at the Palace Station Casino and hotel, which is adjacent to the highway. (AP)

Soviet sailor returns home: A Soviet sailor who literally jumped ship in Portland last summer and later staged a destructive nude jaunt through a coastal town has returned to his native country, officials said.

Alexander Putyn, 29, began asking to go home not long after he jumped into the Willamette river June 28 from the deck of the Soviet fishing ship Izumrudnyy, said Margaret Godfrey, a counselor with the immigration counseling service who worked with Putyn.

The sailor was suffering from an emotional disorder characterized by dramatic mood swings and was not on his medication when he jumped from the ship, she explained. (UPI)

Thornburgh visits Moscow: Attorney-General Dick Thornburgh travelled to Moscow and met with Soviet officials about human rights, drug trafficking and emigration, the Justice Department said in Washington.

The first official trip to the Soviet Union by a US attorney-general was in response to an invitation from Soviet Minister of Justice Yury Ivanov, the Justice Department said.

"We have been asked to discuss with Soviet officials such issues as human rights, the role of the judiciary and commercial and regulatory law, including environmental law," Thornburgh said in a statement. "In addition, we will be discussing joint law enforcement concerns in the fields of drugs and organized crime." (UPI)

US at fault for Valdez spill: The pollution caused by the Exxon tanker Valdez along the Alaska coastline would have been far less if the United States had ratified an international convention on oil spills at sea, international Tanker Owners said Friday.

"The damage caused by the Exxon Valdez in Alaska could have been considerably less if the convention had been ratified by the United States," said Andreas Ugeland, the Norwegian vice-chairman of the International Association of Independent Tanker Owners.

The tanker Exxon Valdez caused the worst oil spill in US history when it ran aground spilling 10 million gallons of oil in an environmentally sensitive area. (AP)

Retraction demanded: Civil rights leaders are demanding that the Rev. Ralph David Abernathy retract implications in his new book that the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr had sexual encounters with women on the night before he was killed.

A Memphis, Tennessee, woman said in an interview published Friday that she was with Abernathy and King that night, and she disputed part of the account in Abernathy's autobiography "And The Walls Came Tumbling Down."

Church ends segregation: Members of an all-white Baptist church in Selma voted overwhelmingly to allow blacks to join their congregation, but the divinity student who broke the church's colour barrier has been punished by his college.

Of 125 voting members at a meeting at Selma's Central Baptist Church, 120 people voted against a segregationist policy in effect since the 1960s when Selma was a battleground for voting rights.

The Rev. George Jones, pastor of the church, said the vote was taken during a combination religious-business meeting Wednesday. The church has about 1,300 members. (UPI)



Loth Suong: thinks

A brother remembers

Pol Pot: trouble

PHNOM PENH, Oct 15, (Reuter): Loth Suong rues the memory of the brother he lost for 30 years and has twice given up for dead.

"So Saloth Sar is still alive? Where is he?" asked the 78-year-old, who once served as secretary to the court of Cambodia's former ruler Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

"He brought only unhappiness to the family."

Saloth Sar, better known as Pol Pot, is alive and leading the Khmer Rouge from a hidden jungle camp near the Thai-Cambodian border, according to diplomats.

He is generally reviled by Cambodians. During the rule of his radical movement from April 1975 to January 1979 up to one million Cambodians are estimated to have died.

Loth Suong chafed at the memory of the upheaval Pol Pot caused in their peasant household of seven brothers and two sisters in Kompong Thom province north of Phnom Penh.

"When he was young I helped feed him — how could he treat his family like this?" Suong said in a recent interview.

Suong, oldest surviving member of the family, shares the appearance of his notorious brother. Almost Chinese facial features and an impressively large head with prominent jowls command a stocky frame.

"After (Pol Pot) returned from France in the 1950s, he became a revolutionary. The rest of the family was constantly under police surveillance," said Suong.

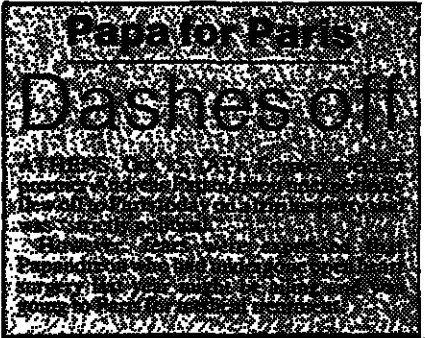
After Pol Pot took power, Suong and another brother and sister were evacuated to the countryside to become farmers with the rest of Cambodia's urban population as the Khmer Rouge pursued its radical revolution.

Suong didn't realise his younger brother, under his adopted nom de guerre, was the mastermind of the Khmer Rouge.

"I thought Saloth Sar had been killed, all we had heard about was (then President) Khieu Samphan and someone named Pol Pot as the Khmer Rouge leader."

One day while cleaning up their village dining hall — the Khmer Rouge split up families and made people eat communally — Suong got a shock.

"There were pictures in the dining hall of Mao Tse-tung and Kim Il Sung shaking hands with Pol Pot — my brother."



Nothing remains

Two firemen hose down the twisted steel girders of the remains of the Conforama furniture centre in Maisons Alfort near Paris after a fire totally destroyed the building and its contents. There were no casualties. (Reuter wirephoto)

Europe

British TV survey: Children in Britain watch an average of 12-and-a-half hours of television a week and one in four have their own set, according to a survey published in London today.

The study was jointly carried out by "Woman Magazine" and BBC-TV. Of those questioned, 23 per cent thought television adversely affected children's imagination.

According to the poll 28 per cent of parents vet all the programmes their children watch, 38 per cent "try to but it is difficult," and another 28 per cent "let them watch what they want."

Meanwhile, another survey showed that nearly six in 10 said television did not give an accurate reflection of women's lives and 34 per cent said they would like to see a channel just for women. (Kuna)

Autopsy finds general drowned: Police said yesterday they believed a French general was murdered by common criminals who stole his car and then dumped his body in a river, ruling out a terrorist claim to have kidnapped the officer.

But pathologists who carried out an autopsy a short time later on the body of Gen. Jean Fereyrou, 72, after his body washed up at a port on the river Dordogne in southwestern France a week after he disappeared, ruled that the cause of death was drowning. (UPI)

6 killed in Soviet bomber crash: Six people were killed when a Soviet SU-24 fighter-bomber crashed and exploded at an airfield in the Caucasus, the Soviet government newspaper Izvestia said today.

It said the accident occurred on Thursday as the plane was taking off and a transport plane which was refuelling also caught fire. Both were reduced to ashes.

The two planes, an officer of a battalion stationed at the airfield and three other people on the ground were killed, it said. A co-pilot of the bomber ejected safely. (Reuter)

Foreign legionnaires indicted: Three former soldiers of the Foreign Legion have been indicted on charges of murdering and robbing two serving legionnaires while they were on leave, military police in Marseille, France said.

Corrado Ranzini, 36, of Italy and Marc West, 30, of Belgium, both former legionnaires, were indicted Oct 1 for the murder of the two legionnaires in the southern city of Marseille, where the legion has several barracks.

Greek Panagiotis Toleridis, 25, also a former foreign legion soldier, also is suspected to have taken part in the double slaying and is sought by French police. News of the indictment was withheld initially by police and Interpol hunted for the Greek. (UPI)

French engineer indicted: A public prosecutor has indicted a railroad engineer on charges of manslaughter in an Aug 6, 1988, accident at a Parisian station that killed one person and injured 57 others.

Investigating judge Annie Grenier charged that Lionel Veniant, 30, did not carry out all the necessary procedures that would have brought the train to a halt at the Gare de l'Est at a safe speed.

The indictment followed a similar one brought against two other railroad employees earlier this month for a June 27, 1988, accident at the Gare de Lyon in Paris that killed 56 people and injured 43 others. (UPI)

Meeting to study slang: The first French University symposium on "argotologie" — the study of argot or slang — opened Friday in eastern France attended by some 200 academics from around the world, organisers said.

The three-day colloquium at Besancon is organised by La Centre d'Etudes du Patrimoine Linguistique des Argots Francophones et Etrangers (Foreign and Francophone Linguistic Heritage Study Centre) together with the Rene Descartes University of Paris, the University of Franche-Comte and the Ministry of Culture. (UPI)

Rare art exhibit: A collection of rare paintings, planned to be showcased later in New York, were exhibited in Geneva yesterday.

Rare impressionist and modern works by prominent artists such as Van Gogh, Picasso, Renoir, Monet, Manet, Dali, and Delacroix were exhibited.

The attraction of the exhibit was "La Vieille II" by Vincent Van Gogh, an oil on canvas painted in 1888 and estimated at \$30 million. (Kuna)

India accused of 'double talk': King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal complained to President Francois Mitterrand yesterday about India closing routes to his mountain kingdom, saying the action by New Delhi dealt a severe blow to his economy, Elysee sources said.

The Nepalese sovereign told Mitterrand in an interview at the Elysee Palace that he regarded soothing words by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at a recent meeting on the fringes of a Non-Aligned Movement summit in Belgrade as "double talk." the sources said. (UPI)

Diamond smugglers caught: Customs officials are trying to calculate how much duty to charge two Spanish men who were caught trying to smuggle 124 carats in diamonds from Belgium, officials said in Lille, France.

The men, who had hidden the diamonds in the hollowed-out gear shaft of a BMW, were apprehended at a customs check point in Halluin, north of Lille on the Belgian border, authorities said.

Customs officers who found the precious stones during a search of the car, said they decided to look inside the gear shaft after learning that a similar hiding spot had been used in another recent smuggling attempt. (UPI)

Platform for Dutch government: Christian Democratic and Labour Party leaders agreed yesterday on a basic platform for Premier Ruud Lubbers' third government, paving the way for the first ruling centre-left coalition in seven years.

Negotiators for both parties said in Dutch television interviews that the document would be written by Lubbers over the weekend and published tomorrow.

No details of the platform were disclosed. Dutch news reports predicted it would call for reinstatement of an automatic linkage between unemployment benefits and the salaries earned in the private sector of the Dutch economy.

Solidarity journalist named: A Solidarity journalist and political activist has been appointed editor-in-chief of the government daily, the state-run news agency Pap reported yesterday.

The move which further consolidates Solidarity's hold of the official government media. Last month the new Solidarity-controlled government named opposition journalist Andrzej Draciewicz to head the committee that controls state television and radio.



Might on display

The nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Carl Vinson displays her mighty squadrons off Okinawa, Japan. Together with the enterprise, the Vinson formed the core of the US navy's largest contingent to stage naval exercises in the region. (Reuter wirephoto)



All dressed for Pope

A man dresses in tribal costume holding a camera on his neck as he arrives for a holy mass by Pope John Paul II Oct 12. (Reuter wirephoto)



Avoiding famine

Satellite-gathered data on weather, crops and environmental damage will be crucial in avoiding world famine in the 21st century, a US congressman said Sunday in urging support for earth-observation programmes.

Rep. Tony Hall, a Democrat from Ohio, said satellites "are basic tools for humanity in the search for solutions to hunger."

But according to a report he released on existing and future remote sensing capacities of earth satellites, funding for the primary US satellite programme Landsat, is uncertain at best.

A young, Tigrean mother holds her badly malnourished son in a camp in Ethiopia. (Reuter wirephoto)

Asia

AP reporter wounded: An Associated Press reporter touring an area where Cambodian guerrillas claimed recent victories was wounded by shrapnel last night when a truck hit a land mine, killing the driver.

Reporter Nate Thayer was returning from his tour when the truck hit the mine about four kilometres (2.5 miles) from the Thai border.

The truck's left front wheel struck the mine at about 10 pm, just after passing a guerrilla base at San Lo. The mine apparently had been planted by soldiers of the Vietnam-installed Cambodian government as they abandoned the base in a recent guerrilla attack. (AP) See also Page 7

Scale Mount Pumori: A West German couple and seven members of an international team led by an Italian, successfully climbed the 23,494-foot (7,161 m) high Mount Pumori, the same Himalayan peak where an avalanche earlier in October killed four Spaniards, the Nepalese Ministry of Tourism reported today.

Siegfried Hapfauer, 48, and his wife Gabriele,

42, launched their assault on Pumori on Oct 12 at 6 am and reached the summit after a six-hour push from the final second camp at 20,341 feet (6,200 m). Both climbers returned safely to camp the same day, the ministry said.

Seven members of an international expedition led by Italy's Josef Holzer, 31, climbed the peak through the south southeast ridge on Oct 13 in two groups of three and four climbers. (UPI)

Darkie to Darlie: "Darkie" toothpaste will now be known as "Darlie" toothpaste in Malaysia because its old name was considered racially offensive, its distributors said yesterday.

Hawley and Hazel Ltd., which has been distributing the toothpaste here for more than 40 years, said in a statement it would spend about 1 million ringgits (\$370,000) to promote the name change.

The company said it has about a 30 per cent share of the toothpaste market in Malaysia, and the name change followed charges that the former name was racially insensitive. (AP)

Woman dies of Aids: A 28-year-old Malaysian woman died of Aids at the general hospital in Kuala Lumpur on Wednesday, bringing the number of fatalities caused by the disease in the country since 1987 to eight.

A hospital official confirmed that the woman, mother of a five-year-old girl, died at 8.40 am after being admitted on Sept 10.

The official said she was working as a sales assistant in a city supermarket until about two months ago. That was when she fell ill and doctors diagnosed her ailment as Aids.

The woman is believed to have worked as a prostitute before she married a government servant. (Kuna)

Soka Gakkai to sponsor: Soka Gakkai International, Japan's largest Buddhist organisation, said today it will sponsor a peace exhibition organised by the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs at the UN headquarters in New York Oct 23 through the end of November.

The exhibition, "War and Peace", with the central theme of "From a Century of Conflict to a Century of Hope", will be a follow-up to an exhibit of nuclear holocaust organised by Soka Gakkai International and held in 25 cities throughout the world from 1982 to 1986, the organisation said. (UPI)

2 die in hot-air balloon crash: Two people died when a hot air balloon carrying sightseers over vineyards crashed into power lines today 80 miles (125 kilometres) north of Sydney, police said.

The pilot of the balloon and a female passenger died in the accident, but three other passengers escaped uninjured, according to officials. They said the pilot was intoxicated and the passengers died of internal injuries.

The other three passengers all were treated for shock at nearby Casanov hospital, the police said. (AP)

Africa

Human rights lawyer released: A prominent human rights lawyer detained for nearly four months is being released, but will still face charges, a spokesman for the Nigerian military government said last night.

Gani Fawehinmi was detained June 17. No charges were filed against him until Sept 18, when he was charged with attempting to sabotage the military's plan for a return to civilian rule.

Mallam Yusuf Maman, spokesman for the armed forces ruling council, said Fawehinmi had been released pending trial after a regular review of the cases of people held under security laws. (AP)

Waldheim postpones visits: Austrian President Kurt Waldheim has postponed a three-day visit to Senegal next week, his office announced yesterday.

He was to have gone on from Senegal for a five-day visit to the Ivory Coast, but Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny postponed that visit on Friday, telling Waldheim that a government scandal was in progress.

Waldheim, who served in the German army during World War Two, has been shunned by many heads of state since he was accused of involvement in war crimes. He denies any wrongdoing.

Most of his state visits have been to Muslim countries which reject the charges as Zionist allegations.

Ivory Coast has strong, mostly unpublicised, ties to Israel, while Senegal has close ties with Muslim and Arab countries. (Reuter)

Latin America

Nicaraguan opposition protests: An opposition alliance supporting presidential candidate Violeta Barrios de Chamorro complained yesterday that the Sandinistas have been spreading lies about alleged US funding of the group.

Also yesterday, the governing Sandinista National Liberation Front reported that rebels attacked an agricultural co-operative in an attempt to disrupt the process of registering voters for the February elections.

The national opposition union lodged a protest with the supreme electoral court, saying the assistant co-ordinator of the Sandinista political commission, Bay Ardo Aro, has been falsely accusing the opposition of receiving \$8 million from the US-based National Endowment for Democracy.

The endowment, supported by the US government, promotes free elections in other countries and can provide funds for voter registration, poll monitoring and non-partisan, get-out-the-vote activities. But it is not supposed to provide money for particular candidates or parties. (AP)

US, France win top prizes: American sculptor Martin Puryear won the best artist prize and France won the best national group award at the 20th Sao Paulo Biennial, a major international art show that opened yesterday.

Puryear and the French delegation received bronze replicas of an abstract sculpture by the late Brazilian artist Victor Brecheret. The sculpture is entitled "O Indio E A Suacupara" (The Indian and The Deer).

The prize winners were chosen by a five-man jury of international art experts. They were: Takeshi Kanazawa, curator of Japan's Hara Museum.

Jacques Lemaire, director of the International Art and Sculpture Centre in Paris.

Kynaston McShine, senior curator of New York City's Museum of Modern Art.

Guillermo Whitelaw, member of Argentina's Art Critics Association.

Carlos von Schmidt, international curator of the 20th Sao Paulo Biennial.

Thousands of works of more than 150 artists from 42 countries will be on display through Dec 10 at the Biennial, which curator Carlos von Schmidt called the second most important art show in the world after the Biennial of Venice. (AP)

Sanctions top summit agenda

C'wealth to discuss steps against SA

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 15, (AP): Participants in the 46-nation Commonwealth summit beginning next week will discuss the possible new economic sanctions on South Africa, and environment an official said.

Sir Shridath Ramphal, Secretary General of the Commonwealth, said a committee comprised of foreign ministers of some Commonwealth nations has been studying South African apartheid, or racial segregation, since the last Commonwealth heads of governments meeting held in Vancouver, Canada, two years ago.

Chaired by Canada's Joe Clark, the committee has considered trade and financial sanctions against South Africa, a former Commonwealth member. Ramphal said summit members will discuss a report written by the committee and will talk about possible responses during the Oct 18-24 summit.



Ms Patsy Robertson, director of the Commonwealth secretariat's press division in London, said summit nations are likely to agree to call on international banks not to "roll-over" debts to South Africa.

Asked whether Britain would oppose economic sanctions, Ramphal said there was no such thing as a static position and that Britain would respond to the views of other nations.

But other senior Commonwealth officials, speaking earlier this week on condition they not be named, said Britain was unlikely to change its position. They said Britain felt that too much pressure on South Africa might make it take a tough stand on Namibian independence and slow the process of dismantling apartheid.

Ramphal, in his comments Friday, said the summit would also issue a "Langkawi declaration on the environment," after meeting Oct 20-22 at the island resort of Langkawi, 350 kilometres (210 miles) northwest of Kuala Lumpur.



Queen Elizabeth puts out her hand to feel the raindrop prior to the start of the Commonwealth Cup horse race at Kuala Lumpur Turf Club, Oct 15. (Reuters wirephoto)

'Cold' Queen skips some events

Prince Philip attends services in her stead

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 14, (AP): Queen Elizabeth caught a cold and skipped some of the events planned for today, the second day of her week-long state visit to Malaysia.

Her husband Prince Philip attended today's services in her stead and laid a wreath of roses at a national monument built in memory of soldiers who had died during the 1948-1960 war against the guerrillas of the banned Communist Party of Malaya.

Bishop John G. Savarimuthu told reporters after Prince Philip unveiled a plaque commemorating the visit that he had been informed the Queen was "not feeling too well and was disappointed at not being able to come."

About 1,000 people attended the sermon in which Savarimuthu said the Anglican Church was grateful for religious freedom in Malaysia.

The Prince also visited a home for physically handicapped people, where he received a bouquet of flowers meant for the Queen.

"The Queen apologises for not coming but I'll give this to her," he said to disappointed Rohainah Abdul Hamid, 21, who was chosen to make the presentation.

About half of Malaysia's 17 million people are Muslims, but religious freedom is guaranteed to the rest of the population which consists mostly of Buddhists and Hindus.

The Queen was scheduled to meet members of the local British community, watch races at the turf club and attend a reception on board the royal yacht Britannia later today, but it was not known if she would participate in those functions.

The Queen leaves on Oct 21 after giving audiences to the heads of governments attending the Commonwealth summit which begins here Wednesday. She will also host dinners and receptions for the summit leaders.

The Queen's state visit to the country is in keeping with the tradition of visiting the country hosting the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) on the eve of the conference. The CHOGM begins here on Wednesday.

Balancing act

Waiters and waitresses frantically attempt to balance bottles and glasses on trays as they compete in Hong Kong's first Waiters' Race. (Reuters wirephoto)

Roh leaves for US trip

Talks on stationing of troops

SEOUL, Oct 15, (AP): President Roh Tae-woo left for the United States today to confer with US President George Bush and address a joint session of Congress.

His departure came two days after six radical students attacked the US ambassador's residence in Seoul to protest Roh's trip and US trade pressure on South Korea. Tight security was in force for Roh's departure.

Roh was to stop over in Williamsburg, Virginia, on Monday before proceeding to Washington the following day. His meeting with Bush is scheduled for Wednesday.

Roh said in a departure statement that his five-day visit will help strengthen relations between the two allies.

"My visit will help strengthen Washington's security commitment to (South) Korea, including the stationing of US troops here," he added.

Major topics in his talks are expected to be the continued stationing of some 43,000 US troops in South Korea under a mutual defense treaty, and Washington's efforts to correct its trade deficit with this Asian country, which totalled \$8.6 billion last year.

Some radical and dissident groups in South Korea are demanding an end to the US military presence here and vehemently protest what they call "unfair" US pressure to open Korea's restricted market.

The South Korean government opposes any change in the status of the US military presence here, saying that would send the wrong signal to communist North Korea. North Korea invaded South Korea in 1950,

starting the three-year Korean war.

Police in Tokyo today reported the fourth arrest on theft charges of a former North Korean soldier whose defection has triggered retaliation by North Korea against two Japanese seamen.

North Korea has refused to release the two, so far detained for six years, unless Japan sends back the defector, Min Hong Gu, a former army sergeant who fled his homeland by stowing away on a Japanese freighter.

Japan refuses to send Min home against his will, but immigration officials kept him in custody for nearly four years before freeing him on humanitarian grounds in November 1987.

Police said they first arrested Min on June 16, 1988, for allegedly trying to steal balls from a parlour for pachinko, a popular Japanese form of pinball in which winners can exchange balls for prizes.

They said he allegedly tried to steal game balls again on Oct 14, 1988, and Aug 15 this year, and allegedly tried to steal auto parts from a salvage yard. Due to the minor nature of the cases, he has been released each time to await action by prosecutors.

Communist North Korea today denounced the arrest of students who stormed the US ambassador's residence in rival South Korea, saying the students had acted with justification.

"The action of the Seoul students was an eruption of towering indignation at the US imperialist aggressors who have established a colonial fascist rule over South Korea," the official newspaper Minju Choson said.

Boat people keep on fasting

HONG KONG, Oct 15, (AP): More than 7,000 Vietnamese boat people in detention centres throughout Hong Kong entered the second day of a hunger strike today to protest possible forced repatriation to their communist homeland, officials reported.

More than 3,000 residents of the Shek Kong Detention Centre refused to eat breakfast today and 400 of them staged a sit-in, said a police spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity.

A government spokesman said 4,200 boat people in detention centres in Shatin and Lantau Island also stopped eating government-distributed food. She could not confirm whether the boat people are food of their own, but said about 100 boat people sat in at the Whitehead Centre in Shatin and many marched to protest.

The actions preceded meetings in Geneva Monday and Tuesday to review plans to screen Vietnamese boat people and repatriate those who do not qualify as refugees.

Under a screening policy adopted by Hong Kong in June 1988, which has been followed by many Southeast Asian nations, Vietnamese boat people will be granted refugee status and resettled overseas only if they can prove they fled political persecution in Vietnam. Otherwise, they would be considered illegal immigrants and face repatriation.

The government spokesman, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said pamphlets in Vietnamese had been found in some camps urging boat people to hold rallies and hunger strikes against the screening policy.

He said there was no disorder and the hunger strikers did not pose any security threat.

Guerrillas advancing

Cambodian strategic town targeted

ROUTE 69, Cambodia, Oct 15, (AP): Cambodian guerrillas have captured three towns and their sometimes fractious coalition is co-operating in an offensive against the last large community blocking their advance to a strategic city.

The guerrillas are trying to topple the government



Food for Cambodians

Top: A Cambodian refugee pulls a cart loaded with rice after food was distributed in a camp. The United Nations has resumed most of its food supplies to the camp after its leaders agreed to stop diverting aid to guerrilla base. Bottom: A Cambodian refugee sells canned foods and oil supplied by UN in this camp controlled by the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF). (Reuters wirephoto).

that Vietnam installed in Phnom Penh after it invaded Cambodia in late 1978. Their attacks intensified after Vietnam on Sept 26 completed the pullout of its last troops from Cambodia.

The guerrillas claimed they already have taken front-line positions at Svey Chek in the offensive of Sisophon that began yesterday. The area reverberated with hundreds of artillery blasts.

More than 1,000 guerrillas were seen yesterday on the roads leading from the recently captured towns of Thmar Puok, Banteay Chmar and Kandoul to Svey Chek. They were followed by people and ox carts carrying ammunition and weapons.

The Khmer People's National Liberation Front had said it seized Thmar Puok and Banteay Chmar, along the highway leading to Sisophon, and Kandoul, just west of the highway, days after launching an offensive on Sept 30.

The guerrillas also had captured artillery positions from which the government could hit site 2, the KPNLF's major civilian base just inside Thailand.

The area, in Cambodia's Battambang province hugging the Thai border, appeared firmly under KPNLF control yesterday, when about 20 KPNLF guerrillas escorted an Associated Press reporter on a 16-hour, 150-km (94-mile) motorcycle tour that began at a KPNLF base along the Thai border.

Guerrillas at the base showed off captured equipment — more than 1,000 automatic rifles, heavy machine guns, mortars, many cases of anti-personnel mines, and teletype machines with Soviet lettering.

Field commanders said the KPNLF was attacking Svey Chek in uncommon co-ordination with its two coalition partners, the Khmer Rouge and the forces of Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Their next target would be Sisophon, a major military base for operations in northwestern Cambodia. Sisophon, astride the junction of highways 5 and 6, which cross the country to the Phnom Penh area, represents a change for a significant guerrilla victory.

Hundreds of residents greeted the guerrillas arriving at Banteay Chmar yesterday. Townspeople held a religious ceremony and KPNLF division commander Gen. Koh Chien made a speech and gave money to a village headman and to Buddhist monks.

The town had been guarded by 300 or 400 Phnom Penh soldiers, said village headman Ta Rah, 64.

"The KPNLF attacked and they all left right away," he said, laughing.

A group of more than 200 government soldiers who had defected to the guerrillas were at once captured artillery base west of Banteay Chmar. Many of the former government soldiers were armed and wearing their uniforms.

A government soldier who had defected and taken a Soviet-made military transport truck with him arrived to help after one of the guerrillas' motorcycles broke down yesterday.

Ban on anti-govt activity sought

BEIJING, Oct 15, (AP): Chinese legislators have proposed banning Hong Kong residents from anti-government activities after the colony reverts to Chinese rule in 1997, an official report said today.

The proposal, the latest in a series of hard-line statements by the Chinese government about its future rule over Hong Kong, was likely to add to fears that have caused tens of thousands of residents to flee the colony.

The lawmakers, members of the standing committee of China's National People's Congress, also reiterated the government position that China will have the right to station troops in Hong Kong and declare a state of emergency there.

The legislators met yesterday in the last forum for seeking opinion on the basic law that will govern Hong Kong after Britain returns it to China in eight years.

The draft law will be put to a vote in March at a full session of the Congress. The standing committee meets in between full sessions, and the state-run Xinhua News Agency said more than 40 members took part in yesterday's discussion.

It said some members proposed adding new clauses to the draft law to forbid "brutal interference in China's internal affairs, those of Hong Kong included, and (forbid) using Hong Kong as a base for anti-central government activities."

Xinhua did not say how many lawmakers supported such clauses, which likely would add to Hong Kong residents' fears that China will impose on them the same tight political controls it maintains on the mainland.

China has promised to allow Hong Kong to keep its capitalist system for at least 50 years, but opposes proposals for democratic rule.

Hundreds of thousands of Hong Kong residents staged protests after the June 3-4 army attack on pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing, and since then some residents have formed groups to try to promote democracy on the mainland.

China has denounced such groups as subversive and warned that non-interference in mainland affairs is a condition for Hong Kong remaining capitalist.

The legislators again rejected recent British calls for China to keep its soldiers out of the enclave, and to spell out the conditions under which it could declare a state of emergency.

The lawmakers also rejected calls from Hong Kong activists for the post-1997 Hong Kong government to be able to interpret the basic law, instead of the National People's Congress in Beijing. The Congress is controlled by the ruling Communist Party.

Xinhua quoted the legislators as saying such demands violated China's sovereignty.

The basic law was drafted by a special Hong Kong-Chinese committee that remains sharply divided over the final formula for selecting the post-1997 Hong Kong government. The current draft contains several alternate proposals.

Postponed

Chinese leaders, locked in battle over a number of crucial issues including whether to file criminal charges against ousted party leader Zhao Ziyang, have postponed a key party plenum until next month, Chinese sources said.

The sources said the Communist Party central committee plenum was originally scheduled for Oct 5. But the meeting, to include the 175 members of the party's leading decision-making body, has been delayed because of infighting among senior leaders over a number of significant questions.

These include the fate of China's decade-long economic reform programme, proposed personnel changes in the military and a reconstitution of "regional command bureaus" authorised to enforce central party dictates in provinces under their control.

University bans

Beijing University students were forbidden to play Mah-Jong, get drunk, do business or spread Western political ideas, as China's Defence Ministry warned of a long-term struggle against anti-communist subversion.

Scatter ashes

Municipal authorities in scenic Hangzhou are asking local residents to scatter the ashes of dead relatives in the river so they don't pile up at crematoriums, an official report said yesterday.

Authorities today announced wide access to Beijing's Tiananmen Square, allowing individuals to enter as long as they have letters of introduction from their work units.



Pope condemns modern influences that endanger family life in Mauritius

PORT LOUIS, Mauritius, Oct 15, (AP): Pope John Paul II warned today that technological advances such as television are threatening traditional family life on this Indian Ocean island nation.

"Modern life has reached the shores of the island. Asphalt roads and electricity arrive the same time as the means of social communication (television and video)," the Pope told a stadium full of Roman Catholics on the tiny island of Rodrigues, 390 miles (630 kilometres) east of the main island of Mauritius.

"In itself, this is praiseworthy progress, but, as in other societies, Rodrigues suffers in full from influences such as those of the video that threaten stability in the family," the pontiff said.

The 36,500 French-speaking inhabitants of Rodrigues are mainly African-descended farmers and farm workers. About 97 per cent are Catholic.

The Pope expressed concern about the growing number of islanders leaving to seek jobs in the booming economy on the multi-cultural main island.

He urged the islanders to safeguard traditional values in a country where tourism has doubled in the past six years to about 200,000 annually. Cardinal Jean Margot has warned that the influx of outsiders is creating serious "moral" problems for Mauritians.

Pope John Paul also delivered a stinging attack against racism today and warned young people against easy sex, during a rally for 20,000 young people.

The Pope, who was welcomed with screams, cheers and young dancers in bright tunics and leotards, condemned sexual immorality and said sex should not be confused with love.

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KUWAIT ... GULF

Legal Clinic

ADVICE FROM OUR KUWAITI LAWYER KHALID TAHER

If you have a legal problem, labour or any other kind. Send your questions to Arab Times, Legal Clinic. Our Kuwaiti lawyer Khalid Taher replies to readers queries. Write to Legal Clinic, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, 13023 Safat, Kuwait or fax your questions on Fax No. 4847495.

I AM working in a private company; my residence expires in Oct 1990. Now I wish to go on vacation and return on a fresh visa after a period of six months without cancelling my residence as my company is not willing to cancel it. What are the rules to obtain a fresh visa.

Z. Bhero
TO obtain a new visa, the previous residence must be cancelled. You must have a job, and a sponsor, who will apply for the new visa. The application must be accepted by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour. If the residence visa is granted by the ministry, you can re-enter Kuwait. However, it is necessary to cancel the present visa.

MY cousin was deported in May, 1985. He was arrested for drinking. He has stopped drinking and has been working in Saudi Arabia since 1985 as a driver. He is willing to come to Kuwait. Can he return? He was not taken to court and sentenced. Nothing was written on the passport and there is no stamp. Can I try to get him a job here?

Z. Pereira
AS you did not give me the full details of the deportation case, I cannot give a clear reply. If there is no stamp on the passport, he can come back. It is possible that his name has been filed on the computer as a deportee, if this is the case, there may be some difficulty in his returning here. I advise you to check if this is the case.

I AM on dependant visa No. 22. I work for a private company, which will not provide visa No. 18 or work permits for its employees. All my co-workers are also on dependant visas. What shall I do?

Anonymous
YOU must ask the company to get visa No. 18 to continue in the job. It is illegal to seek employment, and be employed, on dependant visas. By working, you are violating immigration rules. This applies to all your co-workers as well. If it is a criminal offence, punishable with deportation, to work on a dependant visa. If your visa cannot be transferred you must cancel it and re-enter the country on a fresh visa No. 18.

WHAT is the legality of companies holding an employee's passport. I do not find any reference to this in the Labour Law booklet. Furthermore, what if the employer loses or defaces your passport. Is there any legal action against the company?

V. Sharul
THERE is no legal backing for companies to hold an employee's passport. However, it is common practice for employers/sponsors to hold passports as they are legally responsible for a foreigner's stay in the country. Some employers also hold passports to avoid the trend of employees jumping ship. Most employers are careful with the documents and normally keep them locked in a safe. If an employer loses or defaces a passport, you can always go to your embassy and ask for a duplicate.

OUR company is domiciled at Khafji, Saudi Arabia with joint operations in Wafra, Kuwait. I have been recruited as a driver, but was brought on a diesel mechanic visa in 1987. Until six months ago, I had dual visas — Kuwaiti and Saudi. Before my Saudi visa was cancelled, I was told the company will get a Kuwaiti driving licence. However, despite several oral and written pleas, the company failed to secure a Kuwaiti driving licence. Recently, I approached the company manager to follow-up the matter. He told me it does not matter if I drive with a Saudi licence a Saudi registered car or a Kuwaiti registered one.

Please tell me:
1. Is a Saudi licence valid in Kuwait if an expatriate like me who has no Saudi visa?
2. In case of vehicular accident inside Kuwait in which a Saudi licence holder is involved, will it be honoured?
3. If the company fails to secure a Kuwaiti driving licence, can I refuse or cease to work as a driver, even if the car is a Saudi registered vehicle.
4. What are the legal implications if I refuse to drive?

C.L.
VISITORS to Kuwait are permitted to drive in Kuwait, provided they hold an international licence; anyone who holds a valid residence permit cannot drive with an international licence. He must obtain a Kuwaiti document. A Saudi licence is not valid for foreigners in Kuwait; and you must get a Kuwaiti one.

You can refuse to drive the Saudi registered vehicle, because you will be driving in the state of Kuwait; if you do, it is a punishable offence. There are no legal implications if you refuse to drive because, if you do, you will be committing an offence, which is not in your interest.

I WAS employed as a showroom in charge of a trading company in March, 1981. The non-Kuwaiti managing director went into partnership. The company was running at a loss, and it was closed down by the court in September, 1986. The court sold all the goods, which the partner bought.

The partner told us to stay with them; and advised me to file a complaint in the Labour Court regarding non-payment of salary etc. We filed the case in August 1987. In January 1988, the partner's cousin paid us three months salary. I had applied for six months salary. I want to know if he collected the money which I had applied for. How will I know?

Panikar M.
YOU had written to me some days back. You did not say how the payment was made. Was it paid directly or through the court? You do not say what the judgement was? If the case was decided by the labour court, there must be a judgement, which gives all relevant details. I would like to get more details about the case, including a copy of the judgement. If you send it, I will go through it and comment on it.



I'VE been recruited by a private school and arrived here some weeks ago. My residence visa has not come through — it is being processed. I'd like to know if I can seek employment in another school or company. Can I cancel and start again with a new visa? I was recruited in UK.

I signed the contract in July. One clause says: "The official contract period in Kuwait is on an yearly continuous basis." Another clause says: "Teachers agree not to seek employment in other schools or companies for a period of two years."

Ms A.
YOU have signed a "fixed period contract." Private Sector Labour Law, Article 53, stipulates: "If the contract is made for a fixed period, and either of the two parties terminates it, while there is nothing among its terms dealing with such a case, the party terminating the contract shall compensate the other for any loss incurred by him. If such termination is made by the employer for reasons other than those stipulated, he shall compensate the labourer for any loss incurred by him, observing commercial custom, nature of work, term of the contract, and other circumstances."

If the termination is made by the labourer, he shall be liable to compensate the employer for the loss incurred by him as a result of contract termination. I've quoted segments of Article 53 so that you get a clear picture of your status. As you have not completed the contract period, the employer has the right to demand compensation for the expenses incurred by him to recruit, and call you here. If you don't mind, you can break the contract, resign and go back to the UK and return to Kuwait on a new visa.

I'VE been working in a ministry. My wife has been working as a domestic under visa No. 20. Before coming to Kuwait, she was employed in an office. One of the companies has agreed to give her visa No. 18. She is five months pregnant. If she gets the work visa, can she cancel visa No. 20 and re-enter Kuwait on visa No. 18?

Will there be any problems regarding medical procedures? If the sponsor gives the letter, and she takes a doctor's certificate, will it be alright. In case she delivers while still holding a domestic visa, what is the procedure?

S. Fernandes
SHE can cancel her present visa and re-enter on No. 18 work visa. Her re-entry depends on whether or not she holds a valid permit to enter the country. All procedures, including medical, must be done to complete visa formalities. If there is any problem, the authorities will tell you what they are.

I can't tell you if her visa transfer can be done locally because you did not give the first date of entry. The rules do not permit the provision of residence permit for children of parents holding domestic visa. By the rules, children born to domestic visa holders are normally sent back to their country of origin, along with the mother.

ROPME reviews pollution protocol Industries pose threat to coasts

KUWAIT, Oct 15, (Kuna) Legal and technical experts at the Kuwait-based Regional Organization for Protection of Marine Environment (ROPME) opened their fourth meeting on the protocol for protection of marine environment against pollution.

Co-ordinator of the organisation's technical and administrative affairs Dr Badriya Al Awadi gave a speech pointing

out that the three-day meeting targets revising and organising the protocol and reviewing its technical appendices.

The protocol was reviewed in 1985 yet its endorsement was delayed because of the prevailing regional situation at that time, she added.

Awadi elaborated that the organisation's executive committee agreed last March to implement the protocol's draft

which the legal experts had prepared.

Approval
The current meeting is interested in preparing the protocol's final draft in addition to its appendices, she explained.

She added that the organisation's secretariat will send the protocol and its appendices to member countries to officially approve it before presenting it to

the upcoming ministerial meeting. Awadi called for exerting efforts and implementing the protocol to combat pollution, specially when the regional countries are passing through the development and industrial stage, ventures of which are deployed on the member countries' coasts posing as a main source for polluting the marine environment.

PAAET to co-ordinate manpower requirement

THE deputy director general of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training Humoud Al Mudaf has said that the authority will apply comprehensive basis for the admission policy at the educational and training sectors of the authority as from the scholastic year 90/1991. He added that one of these basis is the necessity to co-ordinate between requirements and needs of labour market for the graduates of the authority and the offered manpower.

The authorities admission policy will be tailored to meet the specific demand manpower. Such a trend is one of the main factors to change the combination of population of Kuwait that the state is working to reach, he said.

Mudaf pointed out that specialists at the faculties and training centres of the authority are developing the curricula and training programmes in co-ordination with departments of the state. The authority tries to benefit from the experience of similar scientific institutions in Arab and foreign countries, he added.

He revealed that the private sector still plays a limited role in supporting the activities and policies of the authority. This sector should play a more active role in educational and training programmes offered for national manpower. The private sector is now helping the authority in allowing students to have their field training at companies and establishments.

He added that the state needs legislations that control the relations between institutions that graduate and train manpower and employers to ensure the employment of Kuwaiti graduates in the private and government sectors. He added that such legislations ensure the balance in distribution of Kuwaiti manpower and reduce pressure on the government sector.

Educational conference

KUWAIT, Oct 15, (Kuna) Educators from 10 Arab countries yesterday opened a regional conference to discuss simplification of science and technology education.

The event is co-sponsored by the Kuwaiti National Committee on Education, Science and Culture, the regional Unesco education bureau and the Kuwaiti Science Club.

The opening session was held by Dr Youssef Abdul Mu'ti of the national committee that the forum is a remarkable move to upgrade the conventional education system through the involvement of other institutions than schools.

Representative of the Unesco regional bureau Dr Ghazi Abu Shagra told the conference science clubs can help make science education much more palatable to youngsters by appealing to the students curiosity and adding an element of excitement to the education process.

Floating hospital More agents to cope with demand

APPOINTMENTS for treatment on board the Soviet floating eye hospital, due in Dubai this week, have now passed the 650 mark and two more booking agents have been appointed to cope with the demand.

Five hundred people have booked via Dubai agents, Sharaf Travel and another 150 through the existing agent in Qatar.

"People booking through us are telephoning from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait as well as the UAE," explained a Sharaf spokesman. "The demand in Qatar though has surpassed our expectations and we have had to appoint another booking agent there to help deal with it."

The latest agents to be named are Space Travel of Doha and the Oriental Commercial and Shipping Company of Saudi Arabia, which will be taking bookings through its offices in Jeddah, Riyadh and Dammam.

Floating hospital

Returns from agents in other GCC countries are still being collected. The 10,000 ton Petr Perviy is due to dock at Jebel Ali port this Wednesday at the start of a six month stay. It has been fitted with a complete clinic and multi-station operating theatre where a team of seven surgeons are expected to perform more than 5,000 operations using the techniques perfected by the world-famous Soviet eye specialist, Professor Syvatoslav Fyodorov.

The Fyodorov-trained team can carry out up to 60 operations a day to remedy eye defects such as myopia, glaucoma, cataracts and astigmatism. The six-year-old ship has been chartered by an organisation known as Floks (Flot-Oko-Service), which is a joint venture between the Moscow Eye Clinic and — Sovcomflot, a leading Soviet shipping company. It was converted into an eye hospital earlier this year at a cost of US \$12.75m.

Fana appeal to lift Beit Sahour siege

KUWAIT, Oct 15, (Kuna) President of the Federation of Arab News Agencies Barges Hmoud Al Barges today appealed to directors of world news agencies to immediately send media missions to the West-Bank town of Beit Sahour, currently under Israeli siege for several weeks.

In cables to the agencies' directors, Al Barges said the Israeli occupation authorities, for the fifth week in succession, have been clamping strict siege on the West-Bank town of Beit Sahour without any consideration for human values, UN charters and human rights.

The Zionist troops have been breaking open peaceful houses in Beit Sahour, terrifying inhabitants of that steadfast town, and confiscating their household property to sell them by auction so as to collect the value of Israeli-imposed taxes from the citizens, Fana president said.

Al Barges asserted that despite such a prolonged and restrictive, siege Palestinian citizens in Beit Sahour are strongly determined not to pay taxes to the occupation authorities who have been killing, arresting, deporting and torturing the Palestinian people in their homeland.

One would really wonder, Barges noted, if there have been any crimes more brutal and barbaric than such Israeli acts and what crimes the Israeli occupation troops have not perpetrated so far against the Palestinians?

Furthermore, since the siege clamped on Beit Sahour five weeks ago, Israeli forces, unrighteously, randomly, and without trials, have been throwing hundreds of Palestinian youth into jails and Nazi-type detention camps, said the Fana president.

In order to conceal their atrocities, the Israeli authorities have denied journalists, reporters and media men access to the town and prevented Western diplomats from figuring out on the spot what has been going on in Beit Sahour, Barges added.

Barges appealed to the directors to immediately dispatch media missions to the Palestinian town and to the occupied territories to uncover the Israeli acts, and expressed thanks for their efforts.

Exhibition
KUWAIT, Oct 15, (Kuna) Under the patronage of Abdul Aziz Hamed Al Saqr, chairman of Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the 1989 Korean Trade Exhibition was opened here this morning and will continue until October 19th.

Deputy chairman of the Chamber Mohammed Al Kharaifi was appointed to represent Saqr at the opening of the exhibition in which 20 Korean companies are displaying their products, three with local agents of automobiles, automobile tyres and children's needs.

The exhibition also displays furniture, plastic bags, underwear, stationery, textiles, kitchen utensils, handbags, decorations and clothes.

The Kuwait concert will start at 7.30 pm. For entry passes contact: Tel: 4898891; 5627718; 5631230; 5612114; 3920820; 3718353.

Santhanam

Carnatic music recital at Indian embassy

A NOTED Carnatic music exponent Maharajapuram Santhanam will give a recital at the Indian Embassy Hall on Tuesday. Santhanam, who is touring several countries in the Gulf, has been invited by the Bharathi Kalai Mandram to perform here.

He will give recitals in Dubai and Bahrain before coming to Kuwait. From here, he will visit Oman, where he is due to give another concert.

The Kuwait concert will start at 7.30 pm. For entry passes contact: Tel: 4898891; 5627718; 5631230; 5612114; 3920820; 3718353.

Santhanam

Middle East Medicare 89 — a healthy prognosis

THE 2nd Middle East Medicare 89 Exhibition and Conference (23-26 October 1989) to be held at the College of Medicine and Medical Sciences, Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain has now established itself as a leading event for the international transfer of medical research, information and new medical products around the Gulf region.

In addition to the local pharmacies representing many of the world's leading medical producers, the exhibition has attracted companies from Switzerland, the UK, Germany, France, Denmark, Belgium, Canada, the USA, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Netherlands, New Zealand, India, and many others. The British are leading the field with a 13 company-strong group co-ordinated by the British Health Export Group including such market leaders as the National Health Service, Days, Sterling, Sebro and

Aquafilm. The exhibition is further strengthened by six Bahrain based importing pharmacies — Al Jishi, Behzad, Hashim, Al Razi, Rula and Gulf Pharmacy — who between them represent over 60 foreign principals and their new products world-wide.

Running alongside the exhibition is a major international conference entitled *Progress in Medicine*. Main themes of this wide-ranging conference are "Islam in Medicine" and "Recent Advances in Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery." To date 150 papers have been received and will be presented by 75 top specialists in their fields from over 27 different countries.

To register the conference or obtain tickets for the exhibition please telephone Arabian Exhibition Management (973) 250033 or Fax (973) 242381.

GCC meeting

RIYADH, Oct 15, (Kuna) The second meeting of senior officials in the municipalities of Gulf Co-operation Council states started here today to discuss future plan for 1990 municipal programmes.

The officials will also discuss organising training courses, exchanging data on construction planning, introducing the computer in municipal services, in addition to the possibility of setting up a society to preserve the distinctive architecture of the Gulf region.

On the other hand, a meeting for a special committee to study the uses of garbage in GCC also starts here today.

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Effects of environment on food

Lectures to raise awareness

By Fouzi Al Tam'mil

THE Kuwait Permanent National Committee on World Food Day has held a press conference on the occasion of the Cultural Environmental-Food Week which started Saturday, Oct 14, to last up to Oct 19, under the patronage of the chairman of the board and director-general of the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources.

Dr Fouzia Al Awadi, head of the Food Division at the Department of Hospitals said that the activities of this week would stress the need to raise public awareness on the wholesomeness of fresh, cooked and canned food and the effects of the environment.

She added that activities would include lectures to highlight the negative effects of environmental conditions on food delivered by members from the Food Department and specialists in local catering com-

panies. The lectures will also review a number of diseases caused by the environmental conditions of Kuwait on food.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the committee Mohammad Abdul Rahman Al Fayed said that the lectures delivered during the week within the framework of celebrations would, besides raising public awareness, promote a sense of solidarity at the national and international level to combat starvation, and poverty, while shedding light on the dimensions of the food problem in the world.

Resources

He added that special research would also be conducted on malnutrition and ways to develop natural and manpower resources needed to increase food production, and further upgrade agricultural development to meet contingent food demand. He also said that part of the

celebrations would be held in the Communal Development Centre in Bayan in co-operation with the Food Department at the ministry and the Department of Youth Centre and Children Parks at the Social Affairs and Labour Ministry.

He added that the special catering bus of the ministry would be parked near the centre while a food specialist will deliver a lecture on catering services and ways to preserve food from bad weather and the meals prepared in proportion to age categories at schools.

He pointed out that there would be a set of other lectures organised for this occasion with the co-operation of the Kuwait Agricultural Engineers Society, Kuwait University and Kuwait Society of Teachers in which participants will represent the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources, the Ministry of Public Health and environmental Protection Council.

OMAN has stepped up co-operation with an Australian research institute to devise safeguards against a new threat to livestock and wildlife in the Middle East from the screw-worm fly.

An expert from the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation in Canberra, Dr J. Philip Spradbery was in Oman at the invitation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to evaluate Oman's programme against the screw-worm fly which has been causing concern in the scientific world.

While one species of the fly is known in Oman, a voracious species from America — the New World screw-worm fly — alien to the region and accidentally introduced to Libya in 1987 is posing an increasing threat to the livestock and wildlife in the Middle East, Africa and southern Europe.

The species is not only known to attack a wide variety of mammals but also humans, Dr Khanfar Abdullah Khanfar, director of Animal Wealth, told the "Times of Oman."

"The scientific world is worried about it, and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation has called for a rapid and effective response. This has obliged us to invite an expert to confirm that we don't have that species yet as well as to evaluate our programme and give his advice."

The director said that in the wake of the threat from Libya, the sultanate this year launched a nation-wide survey to monitor the situation.

"The survey would help us take immediate action in case the new species enters the country," he said, adding that the survey would continue as long as the threat existed.

Libya, which did not have the fly at all, is now experiencing an outbreak, and it is

very close to the Egyptian border, said Dr Spradbery. (Reports from Kuwait have claimed that the deadly screw-worm fly has been detected there.)

"It's very important that countries in the region are aware, vigilant and take appropriate steps in the event of an attack from the pests."

Pest
He said an attack would spread through stages as the pest is known to fly or be brought in through imported livestock.

The screw-worm, a little red-eyed fly, is a myiasis-causing parasite which infests a wide variety of mammals; and the economic losses caused by such strikes, particularly in cattle and sheep, have earned it great notoriety.

The female fly lays eggs in masses at the edges of wounds or near orifices, and when the maggots hatch they dig into the flesh of the host and feed on the blood. Loss of tissue and blood in stricken

animals can cause a loss of stamina while severe lesions can prove fatal.

Dr Spradbery, who has been carrying out research on the screw-worm for 15 years and has worked in nearly 30 countries, said the purpose of his visit was to collect specimens of the fly for a global research programme and to observe the situation in Oman regarding myiasis, identify the species of fly involved and propose ways of containing it.

Dr Spradbery, who visited Salalah, Nizwa, Al Hamra as well as Muscat, collected about 700 specimens from these areas which he will be carrying with him for further research in Australia.

Dr Khanfar said: "It'll be a continuous programme. Our laboratory will be working in co-ordination with him, and we'll assess the situation from time to time."

Giving his assessment of Oman, the Australian expert said, the American species had not entered the country alth-

ough the local species was widespread but under control.

"I noticed people are quite aware of the screw-worm fly since it's been here for many years, and livestock have been treated appropriately."

"What's struck me most is the effectiveness of the ministry's animal-wealth programme and its system of clinics, field workers, the entire infrastructure and logistics."

However, he was confident some better methods of control could be suggested by the CSIRO which has been carrying out research for years for the Old World screw-worm fly.

The screw-worm fly, one of the most obnoxious insect pests in the world, has two species: the New World variety in North and South America and the Old World species which inhabits most of Africa, the Indian sub-continent and southeast Asia.

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Oman in new programme to keep out screw-worm

By Meena Ganjiv

New threat to livestock

هكذا انت الاصل

Cabinet hopes for peace in Lebanon

National committee for drugs decreed

KUWAIT, Oct 15, (Kuna): The Council of Ministers today expressed strong hope that the Lebanese deputies, currently meeting in Taif, Saudi Arabia, would come up with a plan for national entente and peace in Lebanon.

The council, which was presided over by HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah also discussed current Arab and international developments, said State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed following the cabinet's weekly session.

Rashed indicated that at the onset of the session the council was informed about the message HH the Amir had received from

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein which contained an invitation to HH to attend Iraq's celebrations on the occasion of winding up the reconstruction campaign of Fao city.

Co-operation

He said the cabinet's members approved a number of draft decrees concerning appointment of governors of the country's five governorates as well as appointment of 15 members for each governorate's council.

He added that Sheikh Saad wished the governors and members of the governorates' councils success in carrying out

their duties.

The council was then familiarised by the commerce and industry minister with the outcome of the 9th session of the Committee for Industrial Co-operation concluded recently in Riyadh, Rashed added.

He pointed out that the Public Works Minister Abdul Rahman Al Houli informed the council on the results of the visit he made recently to Poland and the talks he held with top Polish officials on promoting and expanding bilateral co-operation between the two countries.

The Communications Minister Abdullah Abdul Mohsen Al Sharrhan also briefed the council about the outcome of

the GCC transportation and communications ministers' meeting held recently in Bahrain.

The council listened to a report by State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Rashed on issues discussed during the 7th session of the Arab culture ministers in Rabat lately which centred on preserving the Arabic language and means of fostering interest in Arabic culture and heritage.

The council sanctioned as well a draft decree for establishing a national committee for combating drugs and endorsed decisions in minute number 2,89 of the Municipal Affairs Committee, Rashed concluded.

Kuwait may rehash development strategy

Greater role for private sector: Awadi

By Mahmoud Abdeeen

THE policy of development in Kuwait has recently been the centre of discussions and controversy at various levels. The main question — "Is the first ever organised five-year development plan in Kuwait a success?" The population balance between Kuwaitis and expatriates, almost the central theme of the developmental plan and the official policy, was further violated in favour of expatriates, despite the efforts made to the contrary. The follow-up reports of the Ministry of Planning on the first four years of the current five-year plan, 84-89, said that "results were less than ambitious". This has produced some interested parties to question the real difficulties facing the developmental process in the country.

The second five-year plan (90-95) represents the first of the series of development plans under Kuwait's long term development strategy. In the meantime, highly placed sources revealed to Arab Times/Seyasah that a number of proposals were submitted to introduce amendments to the strategy. The sources added that the Ministry of Planning submitted a detailed report in which it proposed amending some aspects of the development strategy, particularly concerning foreign investments.

one country to another. In other countries, states in their development plans aim at developing resources other than human, while in Kuwait the main task of development is building the Kuwaiti man. For this reason, Awadi stressed that the main theme of the long term development strategy (not the second plan alone) is the investment in the Kuwaiti people by giving them the required push to make them the main factor of planning and the main beneficiary of planning. Thus, Awadi added, building and qualifying of the Kuwaiti man will be the main target of the second five-year-plan and we are preparing the institutions that can achieve this goal. He added that after providing health, housing and other services, we will have to concentrate on educational and scientific aspects that can equip the Kuwaiti people with the ability to effectively contribute to the country's development. He described this objective as "the heart of the developmental plan". He said that all the economic and social policies must be planned around this objective.



Awadi... planned thinking.

Lessons

Asked about comments on the lessons obtained from planning attempts in Kuwait in spite of the fact that results were below ambitions, Awadi said that the current planning experiment is considered useful. He said that it has been realised that there are a number of drawbacks in the plan, as right from the very beginning the aim was not to be too rigid. "Our main target was to make planning a way of government thinking. We can say that we have succeeded in this objective and the government and all ministries and establishments have positively responded to this directive," Awadi added, "we can also say that we have started adopting planned thinking in the government. Everyone now knows that there is a trend to know what are the achievements made compared to the programmes and plans drawn." Awadi added, "If we have succeeded in something, it was our success in making planning our methodology."

"But the main challenge before us now," Awadi continued, "is to train the necessary cadres who can shoulder the responsibility of planning. The planning process may look easy in theory, but in practice it really requires efficient people to implement it." The minister said that thus the advantage of the second plan is that it comes after gaining experience and after pinpointing weakness that is mainly the lack of enough number of personnel experienced in the planning process. He added that in co-operation with the Higher Planning Council, the Ministry of Planning has worked out goals and targets for periods of between 15 to 25 years, especially in fields like population and work-force.

ster said that preserving the social stability is one of the main means. He added that other means include continuing efforts to develop national manpower, in quality and quantity, to ensure that the available Kuwaiti manpower is enough to meet the increasing demand of the labour market. Awadi added that the means also include the use of modern technology, thus reducing dependence on human manpower. It also includes the adoption of a selective immigration policy for expatriates and concentrate on skilled manpower and also through preferring Arab manpower to foreign ones — wherever possible — while acquiring new manpower.

The decreasing role of national manpower in the past few years, coupled by a drop in the rate of Kuwaitis as compared to others, is mainly attributed to the continued dependence upon expatriates in running the development process in the country over the past 30 years. The large number of expatriates in Kuwait, over 72 per cent of the population at present, has certainly influenced the social structure of the country. It has affected social harmony, Awadi admits that achieving the required population balance is not an easy task and one should not dream to achieve it overnight. This very clearly cannot be achieved after one five-year development plan only, especially when non-Kuwaitis are over two thirds of the population.

He added that the fault in the statistics about population and the percentage of Kuwaitis, is mainly attributed to the counting of many non-Kuwaitis (without nationality) who claimed to be Kuwaitis in the previous censuses. But after implementing the Civil ID system, all nationalities became clear and we obtained the exact figures, thus the percentage of Kuwaitis dropped.

Awadi said that if we take the matter from a development point of view, we can say that we have succeeded in changing directions. We have succeeded in stopping the increase of expatriates and achieved a better growth rate among Kuwaitis. For the first time, we started feeling that our policy towards the population issue, has yielded fruitful results.

About the role of the private sector in the development process, Awadi stressed that the next plan provides this sector a greater role. The main motto is to provide the private sector a larger share, particularly in finance,

trade and construction, with the aim to cross Kuwaiti borders. He added that the reduction of dependence upon the government sector as the main moving power of the economic circle, is in itself an indication for providing a bigger role to the private sector. On the other hand, the development plan greatly stresses on improving the quality of Kuwaiti manpower to create the required national skilled workforce and increase its productivity.

Incentives

About the government role in encouraging the private sector to participate in development, Awadi said that the plan's objectives in this context emanate from the country's free economy philosophy. It wants to establish firm co-operation between the government and private sectors for the benefit of the national economy and society. But he said that the government will adopt in its aim to promote the role of the private sector, a set of incentives. These will range in providing production support, training, trust facilities, share in finance, contribution to preparing project studies, by offering some projects on partnership basis with the private sector or selling it as a whole. This will be accompanied by providing the proper atmosphere for private investments in the country. He said that this will also require the revision of a number of legislations that restrict competition between the private sector institutions. But he stressed that the government role other than this will remain restricted to working out the guidelines and leave initiative to the private sector itself. He hoped that the private sector will positively respond with the plan. He reiterated "We will not force the private sector to adopt any policy. We will only attract and encourage them."

When told that the main motive of the private sector is profit and loss and economic calculations without a thought to social activities, Awadi said that the next five year plan will be considered to the interests of the private sector, in a way which is suitable to the economic and social goals of the state. He stressed that there is no contradiction between the private sector achieving profit and in it contributing additional value to the economy. But he stressed that the co-ordination between the various economic activities that the private sector will be involved in, must be strictly considered.

Awadi stressed on the importance of preserving international oil prices in order to be able to calculate Kuwait's income over the coming years. Concerning taxes and charges, Awadi denied any intention to impose them at present. He added "We do not talk about taxes and charges now, because with the available revenues, we can still cover our expenses. If there is any need, we are confident that the people will not hesitate in co-operating with us." The financial allocations for the second five-year development plan will be higher than the \$75 billion allocated for the first plan, Awadi said.

Despite Kuwait's serious adoption of planning, the dependence upon oil as the main source of income and its price fluctuations bear a direct impact on national economy and remains the major difficulty for planning. In addition, the size of the national workforce remains very small both in the government and private sectors.

Resources

Planning Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi said in this context that we cannot talk about a plan or development without having a Kuwaiti man with productive and creative features. To achieve this, Kuwait will use all its resources and capabilities, Awadi affirmed.

Awadi added that the developmental plan relies greatly on the role of the private sector particularly in the fields of commodity and food production. He said that the plan would provide the private sector a role, more than just meeting the commodity needs of the local market, particularly in activities like finance, trade and construction.

Awadi said that the government would take the necessary measures to promote the role of the private sector and encourage it to build a production base. He added that the interests of the private sector will be kept in mind to comply with the state's economic and social goals.

The minister believes that Kuwait's planning experiment is still very new and in its early stages. Awadi said that we cannot talk of totally detailed and controlled planning at present. However, we are evaluating the results of the first plan and are working out ideas for the second one. He pointed out that the planning conditions differ from

Kuwait's Lebanese sceptical of Taif talks

KUWAIT, Oct 15, (Kuna): As complicated as their crisis is, Lebanese in Kuwait are sceptical over the talks in Saudi Arabia by parliament deputies and hold varying opinions on what the solution for the problem should be.

In interviews with Kuna, Lebanese working in Kuwait agree that the talks in Taif are crucial and may be the first sign of hope for their problem, but are receiving the news from Saudi Arabia with caution and scepticism.

"Any success in Taif is a relative matter as the most it can achieve is an agreement on electing a president and the formation of a government with some reforms in the constitution," a Lebanese closely following the situation said.

"But the problem of sovereignty will be shelved until the Palestinian issue is resolved," argued the expert, who refused to be identified.

"Then, the US will use its leverage to resettle one million Palestinians in the north of Lebanon while Israel would expand into the south to control a water resource so vital to its survival and a third part would go to Syria as well," he contended.

However, another Lebanese, Dr. Mohamed Yahya Salam, from the mechanical engineering department at Kuwait University, said that "the Taif conference has given us the only hope so far for a solution regarding our problem."

"But the problem of the talks is that the deputies are the representatives of the people before 15 years ago and since that time things have changed drastically and the real power is now not in their hands."

"Salat, a Muslim, stressed that "Sectarianism is the biggest problem in Lebanon obstructing national reconciliation. If no decisive steps are taken to end confessionalism, the Lebanese problem will last for long."

"The best solution is the abolishment of confessionalism and the transfer to democracy, and the only difficulty in that is the transitional period which is like diving in hot water after getting out of cold water," Salam believed.

Presenting another view, the expert noted that if the Lebanese problem is left alone without the intervention of the United States and Israel, there will be no problem.

If supposedly the United States, Israel and Syria leave the Lebanese alone, the final solution will not take a week to be forged," he asserted, adding that the US and Israel were the two countries that created the problem in the first place.

"The conspiracy was woven by the United States and Israel to get rid of Palestinian refugees by resettling them in North Lebanon and to kill the Lebanese formula based on co-existence among various religions," the expert analysed.

He added, "The Lebanese formula was naturally rejected by Israel because it is so close (geographically) to the discrimination policy of Zionism."

The US, of course, he maintained, would bless anything Israel does for the protection of its regime.



Sheikh Saad visits Ortega

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah visited Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega at his residence at the Salam Palace yesterday. Ortega is in Kuwait on a three-day official visit.

Second university will offer modern curriculum

Admission policy to be discussed

A RECENT study on buildings of Kuwait University (KU) and their areas indicate that they can accommodate only 17,000 students after being developed and expanded. These facilities will suffice to meet educational needs of the state for the 1990's only, Dr Ali Al Shamlan, Minister of Higher Education said.

However, the official added that the Council of Ministers has approved a project to establish a new university that incorporates modern academic systems and offers studies and programmes not included in the present university's curriculum.

The Ministry of Higher Education pays vital importance to scientific research and Kuwait University has allocated a large budget for undertaking scientific research. A special department for research activities oversees the progress in this field and the university has built strong relations with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) and the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) to develop this scientific field.

The university began a plan three years ago to modernise and maintain its present buildings. These projects are expected to be completed by the academic year 1994/1995 and are estimated to cost KD150 million. Approximately 75 per cent of these projects relate to new buildings. 56 per cent are located in Shuwaikh, 28 per cent in Khaldiya, 10 per cent in Jabriya, 3 per cent in Keifan and 3 per cent in Udaibiya area.

Shamlan said that the ministry is gradually completing the construction of its organisational structure and has begun establishing several departments and sections. The ministry also carefully follows a policy of appointments of the needed cadres.

Relevant authorities will shortly review a study related to the admission policies that was prepared by Kuwait University in co-operation with specialists from the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Planning and the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET).

A joint committee from these authorities will discuss it before submitting it to the council of the university. The study is designed to cover the admission policy at the university for the years 1989-1992. The study aims to interrelate the admission policies of the university and PAAET with the actual needs of the development plans of the state, the official said.

extended for their future years, depending on the report submitted on the achievement of the student. The different faculties at the university can also employ these students to lecture or assist teachers for a maximum of 12 hours a week, Shamlan said.

Arts college

Meanwhile, Dr Youssef Al Mutawa, acting dean of the Arts college has said that Kuwait University presents the best academic education and is committed to imparting academic curricula in keeping with latest advancements and developments in this field.

The official indicated that the Arts College co-operates with a number of their counterparts at neighbouring states and world countries by attending conferences and symposiums which are held annually.

Interviewed by a local daily, he stressed that students at the Arts College are imparted in-depth knowledge on humanitarian sciences and languages which are indispensable to any civilised society. Most graduates are in demand and are quickly absorbed into the mainstream of the manpower market.

The official added that with the aim of graduating productive students who will serve their society in the future, the college has indicated its acceptance rates at the science colleges in accordance with the country's needs.

He expressed the hope that post graduate studies will begin at different specialties at the college during the next academic year. Most students in the Arts College were forced to join due to their secondary education grades and not because they are particularly keen on joining the college.

Scholarships

These charters include conditions for offering programmes of higher studies leading to a masters degree or diploma. The faculty is presently offering masters programmes in chemistry, maths, physics, medicine, engineering and philosophy, he said.

Students are encouraged to join the master programmes at the Faculty of Higher Studies by being offered scholarships. According to the conditions, students (Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti) of the faculty are granted a monthly grant of KD200 plus KD200 additional for first year Kuwaitis. The latter can have this additional amount

Thursday holiday

Central Bank blocks issue

By Abdullah Al Shemrari

A PROPOSAL to treat Thursday as a holiday for local banks, is yet to be deliberated upon by the Central Bank of Kuwait, according to the chairman of the Kuwait Banking Studies Council Committee Saad Al Nahed.

He told a local daily that a study on the feasibility of the proposed off-day submitted by a number of board chairmen of local banks to the committee stressed several salient points which sought to relieve banking staff by giving them an extra day-off besides Friday. This recommendation is intended to step up their productivity by dividing up

and adding the working hours of the off-day to the remaining working days.

Arguments against this proposal stressed that this would prevent most businessmen from the chance to finish their bank dealings on Thursday. Additionally, trading operations of banks with the international banks would be dislocated for four days, including Friday and Thursday, as international banks do not work on Saturdays and Sundays. This will certainly harm business in the banking sector and investment companies, and will not complement the working hours of the Central Bank, which keeps government hours.

He also said that this would also result in burdening the banking staff and necessitating that bank branches open for three days to meet the demand of their clients, therefore the matter was finally treated with reservations by the Central Bank.

Meanwhile, the official said that the banks had covered large ground discussing a joint project to unify their auto-cards under one unified secret code. The required endorsement has been made and the project is to be implemented shortly.

He said that the new system would be used in all Co-operative societies after installing the related equipment.

Oman denies Wall Street report

MUSCAT, Oct 15, (Kuna): Omani Information Minister Abdul Aziz Al Rowass has denied a report published in the US Wall Street Journal last Friday on Saudi-Omani relations and described it as fabricated.

In a statement carried by the official Omani News Agency, Rowass said the report was baseless and urged the newspaper to withdraw the report and apologise.

Rowass described relations between Oman and Saudi Arabia as excellent and said these relations are based on common grounds of fraternity, culture, religion and aspirations.

He said such reports like the one published by the Wall Street Journal were designed to undermine these close relations and regretted the publication of such fabricated information by the paper.

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Aid appeal to help resettle Lebanese refugees

KUWAIT, Oct 15, (Kuna): A committee, representing 16 local charity societies, today appealed to the public for donations to help their homes as result of the recent fighting in and around Beirut.

Committee member Tareq Al Eisa told Kuna that a sum of KD5.5 million (about \$18 million) needs to be raised to extend relief aid to Lebanese displaced persons and destitutes.

Nearly one million Lebanese Muslims had fled Beirut to the north or south because of the latest round of fighting that erupted last March 14.

The joint Kuwaiti committee for relief aid to Muslims includes 16 charity societies engaged in the field and was first established in September 1979 to co-ordinate

ate assistance to Muslims around the world, particularly those affected by natural disasters.

Tareq Al Eisa, who is also responsible for building of mosques in the Society for Revival of Islamic Heritage, explained that help needed for each individual, in the form of blanket, bed mattress and food-stuffs, would cost KD12, adding that sum assistance to individuals is expected to reach KD3.6 million.

He indicated that the displaced would be resettled in 12 camps, each housing 5,000 families at an approximate cost of KD150,000 per camp.

Services in each camp will include a water reservoir, a medical unit and ambulance cars with a cost of KD100,000.

Eisa said.

Hoping for a political settlement of the Lebanese crisis, the official said that in case a solution is reached helping the return of refugees to their home, the committee will re-arrange its priorities such as to include distribution of food and medical assistance to returnees, provision of mobile medical units and repair of damaged buildings.

Eisa praised the support given by Kuwait's political leadership, headed by HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier, to the committee's activities by setting aside thousands of tons of relief aid and transporting it by military aircraft to persons in need.

Referring to aid extended by the com-

mittee to disaster-stricken areas, he said the committee gave considerable financial and material assistance to victims of floods in Bangladesh in 1987-88 which rendered more than 30 million people homeless and destroyed crops and vast irrigated areas.

In Sudan, the official pointed out that the committee is rebuilding 33 schools and 10 health centres destroyed in torrential rains in Sudan in August last year, which also rendered some one million people homeless.

Eisa concluded that necessary assistance was given to those affected by floods in Democratic Yemen last March during which thousands of homes were swept away and more than 80,000 people were made homeless.

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

If you are patient in one moment of anger, you will escape a hundred days of sorrow — Chinese proverb.

El Baz stitches Arab-Israeli policy

EGYPTIAN President Hosni Mubarak and his ministers make the grand decisions. But it is Osama El Baz who from the shadows offers advice and stitches Egypt's Arab-Israeli policy together, selling it to Cairo's allies and adversaries.

Little is known about him. Baz, 58, prefers it that way. He likes cigars, pizazz and classical music and shuns both publicity and the visible trappings of wealth associated with high public office.

"We can't get anywhere near him," says one senior Western diplomat. "I've been here three years and maybe shaken his hand twice. That's as near as we get to him."

His official rank, that of first under-secretary at the Foreign Ministry, belies the enormous influence he wields as adviser to Mubarak on Middle East peace diplomacy.

Former colleagues say his ideas are central to Egypt's formulation of policy towards the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel. Behind the latest proposal to hold the first Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo lies Baz's hidden hand, guiding and cajoling.

For top PLO officials, for US Ambassador Frank Wisner as well as high-level envoys from other Arab capitals, the way to Mubarak lies through Baz's office, diplomats say.

"He's very prickly," says one visitor to the presidency. "He sat down opposite me while I was waiting to see the President and blew cigar smoke in my face and tried to find out all he could about me. I was quite unmoved by his questions."

A Palestinian acquaintance commented: "He is an aggressive negotiator and very, very bright."

The diminutive, conservatively-dressed civil servant is valued for his experience, his wide-ranging contacts throughout the Arab world, his inimitable image and his loyalty.

"He can summarise everything you ever wanted to know about Egyptian foreign policy in five minutes, or he can lecture you for three hours without telling you a thing," says one veteran Egyptian journalist.

Colleagues of his say he shows no appetite for the status symbols of power. Apparently he owns no palatial villas, and has never to anyone's knowledge ever owned his own car.

He relaxes in his office after normal working hours by taking off his shoes, putting his feet up on his desk, loosening his collar and turning up Mozart, acquaintances say.

Outside the office he has been glimpsed munching on a pizza in an expensive restaurant, queuing to pay his son's school fees or being driven to work in a black government Mercedes.

Still, the US-educated lawyer remains an enigma. For the Egyptian journalists covering the Camp David negotiations between Israel and Egypt in 1977, Baz was known as a hawk, constantly prodding the late President Anwar Sadat into demanding more from Israel. (Cairo — Reuters)

Hope raised for Mandela's release

PRESIDENT F.W. de Klerk, as he pushes reform in South Africa, is like a man jumping out of a plane — there's no turning back and he has to hope his parachute works.

Developments in South Africa have come fast in the month since De Klerk was sworn in as president of Pretoria's white-led government. But he is also taking serious risks, analysts say.

The latest move was the dawn release on Sunday of eight leading political prisoners, including Walter Sisulu, a close comrade in arms of the world's best-known political prisoner, Nelson Mandela.

If the black majority refrain from an outpouring of protest as the men they regard as heroes return to society, Mandela's release may not be far behind.

"The stage would then be set for the most far-reaching process in the country's post-war history," the Sunday Times, South Africa's largest selling newspaper, said.

This would be preparations for talks between Pretoria and leaders of the resistance, particularly the black community which still has no voice in national politics.

Government sources said the release of Mandela — the next step in the "safe landing" theory — could be as early as Christmas or January.

The sources, speaking before Sunday's release of the prisoners, said a government might at the same time lift a three-year-old state of emergency, thus meeting another demand of black leaders.

The pace of recent events, dramatic by South African standards, has been a surprise to Pretoria's opponents by surprise.

Karl Sibaya, a columnist in the anti-government black newspaper Press, wrote: "Never before have we seen such political activity in Africa."

But he added: "Mistrust is the operative word. And mistrust between government and the people looks certain to be with us for a long time."

Analysts give De Klerk credit for substantially improving the political environment in his short time in office.

They note the release of prominent political prisoners has eased some of the imposing new economic sanctions on South Africa, an aid to this week's Commonwealth summit in Kuala Lumpur.

However, freeing political prisoners and raising expectations of an end to apartheid laws could lead to an explosion of unrest. The government could then resort to the sort of repression which stamped the nation-wide black revolt in 1984-86.

A backlash could also come from far-right whites. The Afrikaner Resistance Movement (Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging, AWB), South Africa's biggest neo-fascist movement, has already said it is considering suing a government over Sunday's releases.

Rightists are incensed over De Klerk's tolerance of protest marches organised by anti-apartheid activists which have drawn tens of thousands of people into the streets of South African cities in recent weeks. (Johannesburg — Reuters)

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1756 — British forces under Robert Clive march against Nawab of Bengal, India.
- 1793 — Marie Antoinette of France is beheaded.
- 1806 — War starts between Prussia and Russia.
- 1815 — France's Napoleon Bonaparte lands as exile on island of St Helena.
- 1834 — Britain's House of Parliament is almost destroyed by fire.
- 1911 — Britain and Germany sign Yangtze agreement to check aggression in China.
- 1916 — Allies occupy Athens, Greece, in World War I.
- 1940 — United States bans all shipments of steel and scrap iron to Japan.
- 1942 — Hurricane takes 11,000 lives in Bengal, India.
- 1949 — Civil war ends in Greece.
- 1951 — Pakistan's Premier Liaquat Ali Khan is assassinated.
- 1964 — China says it has tested its first nuclear bomb.
- 1970 — Anwar Sadat becomes president of Egypt, succeeding the late Gamal Abdel Nasser.
- 1978 — Cardinal Karol Wojtyla is elected Pope in conclave in Vatican, taking name John Paul II.
- 1987 — Captain Blaise Compaore tightens control over impoverished West African nation of Burkina Faso after coup that kills President Thomas Sankara.
- 1988 — Investigators believe sabotage — not mechanical failure — caused plane crash that killed Pakistan's President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq.

Aoun lacks political skills

Defiant general liked by many Muslims too

GEN. MICHEL AOUN'S defiance of Syria has endeared him to many Lebanese Muslims as well as to his own Christian community.

But both recognise that it will take more than artillery duels to get Syrian troops out of Lebanon. Shelling intensified greatly over the weekend and continued yesterday. It has ravaged Beirut, killing 510 people and wounding some 2,000 since mid-March.

What General Aoun lacks, critics in both communities say, is political skill. He has no programme to turn his popularity into national unity and bring about reforms that could end the fighting.

The general's defiance of the Syrians has always gone down well with ordinary Christians in the enclave east and north of Beirut, where his authority as prime minister is accepted. Despite all the casualties since he began his "resistance war" against the Syrians in mid-March, there is little sign his popular support there is waning.

"He is doing what has to be done," one east Beirut resident says. "The military option is the only way, whether we win or fail." Similar sentiments are expressed by many ordinary Christians.

What is more surprising to a visitor to Syrian-occupied, mainly Muslim west Beirut is the extent of the general's popularity there — and conversely, the extreme unpopularity of the Syrians in the areas they control.

"Whoever you talk to here, you won't find anyone, whether Sunni, Shiite, Druze, or Christian, who has a good word for the Syrians," a west Beirut resident says.

"Their only support comes from leaders who are frightened, and who are hated and despised by the people," he adds. "The most you will find are those who point to the chaos that would ensue if the Syrians were suddenly to withdraw."

"The people are with Aoun," another says. "He talks their language. He says what we are all saying at home, but he is afraid to say it public."

Even when he is shelling our areas, we thank him," a Shiite resident of Beirut's southern suburbs says. "I wish there were 10 more like him in this country. We don't want (Syrian President) Hafez Assad, or (Amal leader) Nabih Berri or (Druze chief) Walid Jumblatt, we want the Lebanese state and legality. If it wasn't for Aoun, the world would have forgotten about us."

Even politically minded Muslims who are highly critical of Aoun concede his popularity — and the disavowal into which the Syrians have fallen.

"It's not that people like him so much. He's popular because he's fighting the Syrians, and everybody hates them," a Shiite businessman says.

Even Syria's political allies in Lebanon admit that the behaviour of Syrian troops has alienated the people. Theft, looting, racketeering, and insulting or violent treatment of civilians halted at Syrian checkpoints, are frequently cited.

But Aoun's popularity among the Muslims, and



Major General Michel Aoun

their dislike of the Syrians, has not turned into political gain or had any effect on his confrontation with the Syrians.

"His great mistake is that he does not know how to behave politically," on West Beirut analyst says. "You can't get rid of the Syrians just by shelling them."

"It's not enough for Aoun just to stand up to the Syrians," adds another Muslim critic. "We have to begin by unifying the Lebanese. The Christians have to give to a Lebanese partner, and he is not doing that."

Above all, the most frequent reproach directed at the general by Muslim critics is his consistent failure to elaborate a political programme, and to emphasise willingness to concede the political reforms which are at the heart of Muslim concerns.

"If ordinary people are attracted by his rhetoric, it does not mean he has the solution," one senior Muslim politician says. "He knows how to play to

the gallery, but he has no political programme. He has not been consistent, and I do not see him saving the country, far less reunifying it."

Aoun has from the outset insisted that there can be no discussion of political reforms while the Syrians maintain their "occupation" of two-thirds of Lebanon.

His demand that the Syrians must withdraw while the Beirut government remains divided — and Israel remains entrenched in the south of the country, threatening Damascus by extension — is regarded by both Muslim and Christian critics as unrealistic.

Recently Israel struck well outside the "security zone" it controls, snatching Sheikh Abdel Karim Obid, a leader of Lebanon's Shiites. Syria backs the Shiites' drive for political parity with Lebanon's Christians.

Some see a Syrian withdrawal as a recipe not for liberation, but for open-ended conflict, political paralysis, and partition. (Beirut — CSM)

Shocking news

SIR: There was a shocking news on Sept 30, '89 for all Urdu readers in Kuwait, as well as in some Gulf states. This was about the discontinuation of Urdu pages in the Arab Times. One strange point of announcement was that it was without any detail or the reason for closing Urdu pages.

Needless to write here that there are many Urdu readers in Kuwait and most of them can read only Urdu, and they buy the Arab Times for only these two pages.

The Arab Times organisation has complete right to close the Urdu pages and also they are not obliged to tell the reason to their readers about the closure of Urdu section.

But experience shows, that leaving the things unclear or open like this, creates many rumours and people create different speculations.

Unfortunately this action has been taken during the days, when there were some bloody clashes between Hindus and Muslims in India, over the issue of Urdu. Urdu has been declared as second language in one part of India. Many Muslims have been killed and their property has been damaged. Is the closure of Urdu section in Arab Times linked with that?

This is only one guess, there can be many stories, created like this. Therefore it is better to give some reasons.

As regards the role of newspapers in the society, this is the main function of journalism to inform the people about the facts and relay the informations in such an easy way.

The Arab Times may suffer sufficient business loss due to the closure of Urdu pages.

Although we do not know the facts, reasons and actual problems of the administration of Arab Times, we still request them to continue the Urdu pages as usual. It will be a good service.

Mohammad Ashfaq Malik
Safat.

Restart Urdu pages

SIR: Hundreds of people have phoned me or have asked personally in various gatherings as to the reasons of the closures of Urdu pages in Arab Times. Many have enumerated baseless views and have asked my reply. Some of them indicated that the last issue of 30th September contained my interview and subsequently no issue afterwards was published. I have given my short replies to my friends and callers on the telephones; clearly indicating that it could be policy of the publishers, having no financial gains, decided to close the Urdu section but it never gave any satisfactions to Urdu lovers and well wishers and they are still keen to know the reasons; reasons in a reply to restart the Urdu pages.

Whatever was the final decision, I am absolutely not in favour to vanish the pages of Urdu, which have had tremendous progress during the past few months. It was not only the service, but was a means to prospective readers, to provide a chance to express their views in the local press. Urdu is an international language and majority of Indians, Pakistanis and Bangladeshis, love reading it. I remember, once, during September I could not buy the Arab Times and I went to various supermarkets and bookshops but could not find a single copy as everywhere it was sold out but yesterday, when I went to the supermarket of my area Yarmouk at about 11-00 pm, a number of copies were available and this is a clear proof that the circulation of Arab Times, after the closure of Urdu pages has decreased. I am sure that all the members of your administration will agree with me.

I do not wish to go further in details but simply

request the Chief Editor of Arab Times and its authorities to kindly reconsider their decision and to restart the Urdu pages as soon as possible. I assure you that the whole community of Urdu lovers will welcome it.

M. Kamal Azhar,
President,
Pakistan Arts Circle,
Khadiya.

Mistake to close

SIR: The cancellation of your Urdu section, be it good or bad, was your decision to make. But as a regular reader of both your English & Urdu section, I feel that it is my duty to tell you that according to my calculations it was a mistake on your part. The question is not that other people don't understand a certain language, the question is that certain other people feel satisfied reading a Kuwaiti paper which dedicates that one page to their language. Now I don't understand any of the caricature jokes made on the "Filipino pages," but I know that someone out there who does understand them and has a good laugh, is satisfied, and so am I.

I have many times seen people, buying Arab Times just for its Urdu section. Those people who are not fluent in English or know nothing of it. These people have waited eagerly to read this paper to find out whether the latest news they had heard last night tallies or not with the paper.

Anyway, the decision, as I said earlier was yours and you will be responsible for it. Were it not for the popularity of the Urdu language, you would not be still receiving advertisements in Urdu.

Sohail,
Kuwait.

Delicate issue

SIR: Any mention of Salman Rushdie or of his cursed book "The Satanic Verses" anywhere is a very delicate issue in the Islamic world. And while discussing it one should be very careful so as not to hurt another in any sense be whatever his point of view on the subject.

A few days ago I read an article of Ahmad Deedat. I have to be frank that I agree with him entirely. Had this book been not banned and so much publicised, it would be just another book on the bookshelves and the issue's heat would have died down within a few weeks. But Iran's condemning Rushdie to death and acting as the leader country in the Islamic world has given it just the much needed publicity and has produced often say "Hundreds trampled in football riot," so much for tolerance.

I know that there are people who might criticise my point of view and of Deedat's. But I clearly said that this is my opinion on the subject.

Indapople,
Kuwait.

Deceiving production

SIR: Two series of the bestseller "Dada is Death" telecast by Kuwait on channel two were very much commendable. In the Malaysian language dada means drug. The so called dada of evil destroys the lives of innocent people while dealers and traffickers enjoy riches for a short term.

Since this particular TV drama was filmed outside Malaysia the true identity of Malaysia was not shown. Malaysia has natural beauty to offer visiting tourists. Do not judge us by this deceiving foreign production. Malaysia is a beautiful country in the Southeast with warm natured multiracial society. The sequence of an attempted rescue, mother's

attempt to destroy her son by smuggling in poison, unhealthy living conditions in jail and an American tourist's love affair with the victim were exaggerated to give viewers an added thrill. Tourists are given warm welcome with friendly greetings. It is a heaven for tourists to venture and a hell for dada misusers. To know Malaysia is to visit Malaysia. Visit us in 1990 — Malaysian year of tourism.

K.V. Benjamin
Kuwait

Communism dying

SIR: Since the beginning of post World War II period, capitalists are always trying to destroy the communists. In this endeavour they are succeeding partly due to some strong points in the capitalist system and partly due to the weakness in the communist system of the type presently existing in the world.

Communism as propounded by Karl Marx is a very attractive system in theory only but to practice it in its originality is almost impossible and yet it survived in its crude and rude form for so many years is a mystery. Communism came into being because of the need of the hour, i.e. to fulfill the basic needs of the human beings. Application of force to the people against their wishes in the direction given by their leaders is an anti thesis of communism because this force generates resentment into the minds of the people.

In the name of communism its leaders have kept their subjects almost under the bondage. The torturing, repression, suppression of its subject and forceful territorial expansion has brought a very bad name to communism and because of this the present generation of communist regimes are ashamed to identify their governments with communism.

East Europe has already initiated action in this direction. And, good that Gorbachev has realised this and introduced his perestroika otherwise he would face the revolt from his citizens as it happened in China recently. A few days back China has boastfully celebrated 40th anniversary of communism which was nothing but the dictatorship where human creativity and natural inclinations were not encouraged much.

Man is born free and to have more of it he will strive hard once his basic needs are satisfied, this process has already been acquired by the communist regimes. Now the citizens of communist countries in the true human nature, will fight for more freedom and in the process, if I am not mistaken, with the death of this century, the entire prevailing type of communist regimes will die.

China has already shown the way and some regions in Russia and East Europe have also shown some glimpses of the events to come. The prevailing system in the communist countries will never be able to compete in the all round development with the capitalists. Their roots and everything is the same yet West Germany turned out to be the topmost nation in Europe and its brothers and sisters in the eastern wing are still dormant because of this East Germans were queuing in Prague to jump into the West. Ironically, after luring the East Germans to emigrate into the West, in some circles, West Germany is showing its resentment and disapproval to welcome the Easterners in the name and excuse that because of the new entrants into their country its economy will turn bad and unemployment to its citizens will jump up. But to my surprise, when West Germany does out every year, in the name of war reparations, millions of DM into the coffers of Israeli who in turn utilises these millions against the Arabs, doesn't its economy shatter?

A. Veronica Fernandes,
Kuwait.

Promise not to tell

I NO longer hear people saying, "Have a nice day." This salutation seems to have run its course, as has "Have a good one."

These greetings have been replaced by, "Promise me you won't tell anyone that what I'm about to tell you."

This is how a typical day recently went for me.

I was sitting in the kitchen eating my Cheerios, and wondering how much Jane Pauley makes a year, when my wife said, "I'm going to swear you to secrecy. You have to promise on your honour that it will never leave this room."

I answered, "My lips are sealed, except to finish these last few Cheerios."

"The Marblewoods paid \$1 million for their house in Nantucket."

"What is wrong with that?"

"It was her money from her first marriage and, according to their prenuptial contract, the house is in her name."

"That's hot stuff, I agreed. I felt nervous walking around town with such information. Anyone could wrestle me to the ground and inject truth serum into me."

When I arrived at the office, I had a call from my sister, Alice. "Don't tell Edith or Doris what I'm going to tell you. We're planning a trip to Alaska."

"I can keep that secret," I assured her. The next call was from Edith. "Swear on the Bible that you won't say anything to Alice. They're taking a trip to Alaska. She thinks that I don't know, and I'm not going to let on to her that I know if she doesn't want to tell me."

I waited for Doris's call. She said, "Mum's the word. Edith believes that she is the only one who's heard about Alice's visit to Alaska. I knew it before she did, but Alice made me promise not to tell Edith and you — and if you know what's good for you, you won't say anything to her children."

The part of my brain where I keep secrets was starting to fill up. A staff member at the Boston Globe bureau swore me to eternal silence about Tip O'Neill's assessment of Barney Frank.

At lunch a friend told me, in strictest confidence, that an important Republican was turned down for an ambassadorship after it was discovered that the large donation he had made came from HUD.

Even my taxi driver whispered, "I don't want to be quoted, and it's best if you leave my name out of this, but when Mayor Barry gave Washington the finger, he stuck himself in the eye."

As far as I can see, no one communicates with anyone else any more without first asking the other person to cross his heart and hope to die. On just one day I became the custodian of 66 secrets, most of which I was assured could below the lid of the human race of anyone who'd let them out of me.

I don't know how many more I can keep, but I feel as if I've reached my limit. For me, one of the ways to deal with secrets is to immediately unload them onto somebody else.

For example, if George told me some hot stuff about Joe, and I swear Ben to secrecy when I relate it to him, then it becomes Ben's problem and not mine.

Sealing another person's lips is now the main form of communication between people. Having said that, I would appreciate it if you kept the contents of this column to yourselves. Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Quote me

"I plead with the Cypriot government to have mercy on my son and reduce the court's sentence to a minimum. My son did not commit any harm to the Cypriot government or people whom we respect."

Salma, the mother of Emile Alan Eldin Ghazali appealing to the Cypriot authorities on his behalf.

"I ask the Cypriot government to allow me to visit my son Emile in prison and speak to him even if for a short period." — Mother of Emile Ghazali imploring to the Cypriot government to visit him in jail.

"My son Emile had nothing against the Cypriot government or people. What happened was part of the Lebanese conflict." — Emile's father asking the Cypriot government to hand over the convicts to Lebanon's Muslim-led regime.

"We have had further assurances this week from Iranian sources that the three British hostages — Terry Waite, John McCarthy and Brian Keenan — are alive." — A spokesman for the Archbishop of Canterbury's office confirming seized Britons in Lebanon, according to Iranian sources, are alive.

"It's only my second trip to Soweto in my life and I'm 45. I had to get a taxi to find the way here. I could not control my curiosity just to come and get a glimpse of this man's face." — Said a white South African waiting to pay his respects to Walter Sisulu.

"Today is just the beginning of our celebrations. Next January, we will be celebrating the return of the man himself — Mandela — and the following December we will march to the Limpopo (the border with black-ruled states) to fetch home Oliver Tambo." — A radicalized South African youth envisaging a timetable of change.

"The ANC leader clearly understands the power he wields. If, by remaining in jail, he can achieve the unbanning of his and other organisations and strengthen the ANC's position in the negotiation process, then his own history suggests he will opt for the tough choice." — Gary van Staden writes in the Star daily of Johannesburg on Mandela refusing freedom unless there is a gain to it (freedom).

"I was quite prepared for death... however, I knew the pressure was building, and that sooner or later they would have to give in. It was not possible to despair." — Walter Sisulu's response on being asked if he feared dying whilst in jail.

"Racial prejudice blasphemes against the creator. To cultivate racist thoughts goes against the message of Christ." — The pope on the evil of prejudice to a congregation in Mauritius.

"Love must not be confused with sexuality. In the life of man and woman there can be much love beyond sexual relations, as there can be sexual relations without love. It is typical of a disastrous break between sexual relations and love." — Pope John Paul bringing out the difference between sex and love.

Shamir rejects Cairo as venue

Double blow to US plan

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Oct 15, (Agencies): Underground leaders of the Palestinian uprising and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir dealt a double blow today to US efforts to bring about Israeli-Palestinian peace talks in Cairo.

The PLO-backed uprising leadership urged Palestinians to "reject the suspicious American role, foremost of which is the five-point proposal of (Secretary of State) James Baker."

In their 47th leaflet, distributed in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as PLO leaders met in to peace talks.

Shamir meanwhile told the Israeli newspaper Ma'ariv there was no need for talks in Cairo at all, since Israel would only talk to Palestinians from the occupied territories and would not let the PLO play any role.

"Who says it has to be in Cairo? Why go all the way to Cairo when both sides, Israelis and Palestinian, are here?" the headline Israeli leader asked.

It was his most outspoken rejection to date of any Egyptian mediation role.

The director-general of Shamir's office, Yossi Ben-Aharon, told Israeli radio the message was that Israel would not agree to the participation of Palestinians from outside the territories or to any process leading towards a Palestinian state.

The unified leadership of the uprising, a coalition of nationalist groups, said talks with Israel must be held within the framework of an international peace conference and cover Palestinian demands for self-determination and statehood.

But Shamir said any talks prior to Israeli-proposed elections in the territories would be purely technical and Israel would send "bureaucrats, not statesmen or politicians."

Baker last week proposed a five-point framework for Israeli-Palestinian talks on elections and other issues in Cairo, giving Egypt a major role in arranging the Palestinian delegation through contacts with Israel and Washington.

He intervened after Israel's inner-cabinet, due to the blocking vote of Shamir's rightist

Shooting quizzed

Israel undecided on diplomat

OCCUPIED Jerusalem, Oct 15, (Agencies): Israel has not decided what it will do about a British diplomat who questioned the shooting of a Palestinian last week, Foreign Ministry spokesman Yossi Amihud said today.

"The Foreign Ministry will relate to the subject in all its possible aspects on receiving all the details," Amihud told Reuters.

He said an Israel television report yesterday that the Foreign Ministry was considering steps against Consul General Ivan Callan was not true.

"The television correspondent's attribution was not correct," Amihud said.

Last night, Israel television quoted Amihud as saying Israel was considering steps against Callan for entering two West Bank towns without permission.

Amihud said: "I did not say those things."

Callan, Britain's top diplomat in the Israeli-occupied territories, visited Nablus and Beit Sahour on Wednesday.

He quoted a Nablus woman as saying that on Monday Israeli troops had shot dead Palestinian student Nidal Al-Habash after he had stopped and raised his hands in surrender.

The army has denied the eyewitness report.

A leading British Sunday newspaper highlighted today the Israeli brutality against the Palestinian uprising and suggested that to some Israelis the draconian tactics applied were a "shocking echo" of the Nazi atrocities.

The Sunday Times newspaper directed its attention at the present military trial in Israel which has uncovered "chilling brutality in the army's ranks against the Palestinians and chaos in the chain of command."

Likud party, rejected Egypt's invitation to talks with a PLO-backed delegation in Cairo.

Likud sources said they were counting on the PLO's Central Council, meeting in Baghdad, to reject the Baker formula and take the pressure off Israel to respond.

Shamir has objected to three of Baker's points, saying they allow Egypt to consult the PLO, do not

give Israel a clear veto on Palestinian delegates and would allow Palestinians to raise demands unrelated to elections in the preliminary talks.

Critics accuse Shamir of wanting to ensure his own peace initiative never has to be implemented by setting terms which the Palestinians are bound to reject.

One shot dead as protest mounts

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Oct 15, (Agencies): Israeli troops shot dead a Palestinian and wounded at least 15 others yesterday during protest marches and clashes in the occupied territories.

Palestinian sources said Ramadan Mohammed Kawasmi, 18, was painting nationalist Palestinian slogans in the West Bank town of Hebron when Israeli troops came upon him and shot him dead. The army said it was checking the report.

In the Gaza Strip, troops shot and wounded at least 15 Palestinians, including a seven-year-old girl shot in the head with live ammunition, Arab hospital workers said.

Israel radio said troops clamped a curfew on Kfar Malik, where 200 Palestinians had earlier marched vowing to fight Israel to the death.

A curfew was also imposed on the West Bank village of Kibya after eight demonstrators were arrested.

The protest march in Kfar Malik, led by three squads of masked youths dressed in jeans and black jackets, was held in honour of a villager killed by Israeli troops a year ago.

Omar Al Ahsai was 22 when he was shot during a clash with troops, one of about 560 Arabs killed in the 22-month-old uprising against Israeli occupation.

"Even if Israel kills 100 a day, we will not surrender," the marchers shouted.

An army spotter plane circled Kfar Malik as the masked youths, followed by scores of chanting, cheering women and girls, marched through streets festooned with outworn Palestinian flags and pro-PLO graffiti.

Youth carried placards with pictures of Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and slogans vowing that Arafat had not died in vain.

About 15 minutes after the marchers had dispersed, piercing whistles warned of the approach of Israeli troops.

Youths scattered and mothers called children inside. By the time the Israeli patrols arrived, the streets were deserted except for goats and donkeys.

Troops told journalists the village was a closed military area and escorted them out. Two or three rocks were thrown at the departing convoy but the soldiers took no action.

The army imposed curfews on Nazla village and Dier Al Balah and Jabalya refugee camps in the Gaza Strip. A curfew lifted earlier on Shati camp was reimposed, Palestinian sources said.

Masked assailants stabbed to death an Arab prostitute in the Gaza Strip as Palestinians observed a general strike throughout the occupied territories yesterday in protest over prison conditions in Israeli jails, Arab reports said.

The latest victim was Fatma Ishtan Abu Shaer, 33, who's stabbed body was discovered in the Gaza Strip late Friday night. Arab reports said masked men slew her on her doorstep and then dumped her body outside of Nasser hospital.

The army command confirmed the death, but said it was checking the motives behind the killing.

Arab reporters said she was killed because she was a prostitute, but nationalist groups have sometimes killed prostitutes and drug dealers as collaborators to purge unwanted elements from their society.

Abu Shaer's murder brings to 129 the number of Palestinians killed as suspected collaborators by fellow Arabs since the uprising began in December 1987.

The one-day general strike was called by the Islamic resistance movement or "Hamas" (zeal), whose spiritual leader, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, is currently being held in an Israeli prison.

Human rights groups, including the London-based Amnesty International, have often criticised conditions at Israeli detention facilities.

"Palestinians face inadequate food and medical care, and prisons are often overcrowded," said a lawyer for Al Haq, a watch group founded by Palestinian lawyers.



Palestinian protest

A hooded Palestinian tightens a chain pulled around his neck during a march marking the one-year anniversary when a Palestinian from the Malik village was shot dead by Israeli troops. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lebanese legislators discuss timetable

Pullout hinders accord

Even time divides

BEIRUT, Oct 15, (Reuters): Lebanon, divided by war and rival governments, disagreed over the time today.

The Muslim-led government told people to turn back their clocks at midnight yesterday at the end of summer time. The Christian-led government said summer time would end until midnight today.

Political sources said both governments had actually agreed on the issue and the Muslim decree was an error.

Muslim Voice of the Nation radio admitted the mistake, telling listeners that summer time would in fact end a day later than it has previously announced.

how important he is," said Aoun, whose 20,000 mainly Christian units fought the Syrians for six months this year.

An Arab League-brokered ceasefire halted the bloodshed on Sept 22.

George Saadeh, the most prominent of the Christian deputies in Taif, said: "We are asking for guarantees, clarifications and amendments on the sovereignty (Syrian withdrawal) clause."

"If we don't agree on that clause, the rest of the agreement collapses," he said yesterday in an interview with the Paris-based Radio Monte Carlo.

Saudi Arabia, spearheading Arab League efforts on Lebanon's behalf, was in contact this weekend with both Syria and Iraq seeking their help in bringing their allies in Lebanon to demonstrate more flexibility.

King Fahd sent a message to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, the second since the Taif sessions began, while his Foreign Minister, Prince Saud Al Faisal, conferred by telephone with Syrian Vice President Abdel-Halim Khaddam.

phased withdrawal of Syria's 40,000 troops to be completed within a year.

An Arab League committee comprising Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria has proposed in the peace plan a gradual pullout from Beirut and its immediate surroundings in two years, to be followed by total evacuation at a later stage after conclusion of a Lebanese-Syrian security pact.

The Christians acknowledged that a quick withdrawal would leave a security vacuum and allow militias to seize 70 per cent of the territory now under Syrian control. But they insisted two years was too long.

Damascus and its Muslim allies are expected to rush for "special" Syrian-Lebanese relations. The Christians would go for that if the demand for a withdrawal timetable is met.

In Beirut, Christian army commander, Gen. Michel Aoun, urged the deputies in a statement yesterday not to "make any commitment that would be viewed as a concession on (Lebanon's) sovereignty."

"The Lebanese people will have no mercy on anyone who makes concessions no matter how important he is," said Aoun, whose 20,000 mainly Christian units fought the Syrians for six months this year.

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Syria more determined to fight Israel

DAMASCUS, Oct 15, (Agencies): Syria said today its Air Force was more determined to fight Israel after a Syrian pilot flew his MiG-23 fighter to the Jewish state.

"Treason by a traitor who was mobilised by the Israeli enemy would not affect the greatness of this force, its loyalty to the nation and its commitment to defend the Arab land," said the official Tishrin newspaper.

"Syria which is continuing its march to achieve strategic parity with the Zionist enemy is confident in its men and their high combat spirit," the Al Thawra daily said.

The official newspapers praised Syria's Air Force which will celebrate its 43rd anniversary tomorrow, five days after one of its pilots said he defected to Israel.

Syria said yesterday the pilot, whom it named as Bassem Al Adl, flew to Israel at the end of a spying mission for the Jewish state.

"The Air Force will celebrate its anniversary tomorrow while it is more determined to continue its glorious march with a greater will for achieving victory," Al Thawra said.

The former head of Israel's Air Force intelligence said yesterday the Syrian MiG-23 fighter jet flown to Israel this week provides the West with "a first hand touch" on advanced Soviet-designed avionics.

"It is a dream come true for every chief of intelligence to have (hold off) an enemy aircraft which can now be evaluated and test flown," said reserve Brig. Gen. Oded Erez.

Erez is a former Israeli fighter pilot and served as head of the Air Force intelligence.

Sudan acquires Chinese arms

BEIRUT, Oct 15, (Reuters): Sudan acquires Chinese arms: Three weeks before a ceasefire is due to end in southern Sudan's civil war, the government is airlifting fresh supplies of Chinese arms to the besieged town of Juba, diplomats say.

A Libyan commercial plane makes two flights a day to ferry arms from the capital, Juba, the biggest town in the south, is under siege by Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) rebels, the diplomats said. (Reuters)

Algerian fundamentalists re-tried: Hundreds of Islamic militants demonstrated peacefully today at the start of the re-trial of 15 Algerian fundamentalists charged with armed insurrection against the state.

The defendants, sporting thick beards, skull caps and robes, were found guilty in 1987 by a state security court of theft, murder and plotting to overthrow the government. (Reuters)

Earthquake hits Turkey: An earthquake measuring 3.9 on the open-ended Richter scale shook the Turkish capital Ankara last night but there were no reports of damage or casualties, officials said.

The Kandilli Observatory in Istanbul said it was unable to pinpoint the epicentre of the quake, which shook buildings at about 11.15 pm (2115 GMT). (Reuters)

King Fahd appoints: King Fahd of Saudi Arabia appointed Mohammed Bin Jubair as justice minister yesterday. The Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported.

Jubair, a minister of state without portfolio, had been acting justice minister since Sheikh Ibrahim Al Sheikh resigned in May for health reasons. (Reuters)

Next drug summit in Iran: The next Middle East conference on combating drugs will be held next year in Iran, Radio Tehran reported on Sunday.

The decision was taken at the 25th UN regional conference on combating drugs which was held recently in Ankara, Turkey. (Kuna)

Mrs Mitterrand supports Kurds: First Lady of France Danielle Mitterrand presided over an international conference on "The Kurdish Identity" yesterday and a British parliamentarian told delegates Turkey should be barred from the Common Market for its treatment of the Middle East minority.

Danielle Mitterrand said she was "proud to be with her Kurdish friends when they claim their identity and cultural heritage." (UPI)

Jordan to streamline laws: Jordan's Justice Minister Rabea Al Wazani said the kingdom was tightening laws on economic crimes such as bribery and corruption.

The English-language Jordan Times newspaper today quoted Wazani as saying Jordan was studying tough legislation on economic crimes to include mismanagement and misallocation of funds by public sector officials. (Reuters)

Kurdish rebels killed

BEIRUT, Oct 15, (Reuters): Turkish forces killed seven Kurdish rebels, including two women, near the south-eastern town of Erzurum Saturday night, security sources said.

The Marxist guerrillas were shot dead in fighting which was continuing in rugged areas north of the Iraqi border, they said. (Reuters)

Ethiopian rebels appeal: Ethiopian rebels today appealed for 270,000 tonnes of cross-border emergency food aid it said would be needed next year by an estimated 1.5 million people in guerrilla-held territory.

The relief arm of the rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Army said the emergency aid was needed in Eritrea, Ethiopia's northernmost province, where fighting between the rebels and government troops has left large segments of the population beyond the reach of UN-coordinated aid. (AP)

Campaign to cut infant deaths: North African states have launched a campaign to vaccinate 12 million children and 14 million women of child-bearing age in an ambitious drive to cut high infant mortality rates.

The three-day campaign, which began on Saturday, is organised by the newly-created Arab Maghreb Union linking Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia in a regional bloc similar to the European Economic Community. (Reuters)

Mayor criticises: Mayor Teddy Kollek on Sunday criticised Jewish extremists' plans to lay what they believe will be the cornerstone for the third Jewish temple near the entrance to one of Islam's holiest sites.

The event, planned for Monday, "goes against every Jewish tradition," Kollek told Israel Radio. "It is simply a foolish public relations stunt." (UPI)

Pardon denied: The British embassy denied in Khartoum yesterday that relatives of a British family murdered in Sudan by Palestinians had offered a full pardon sparing the lives of the convicted killers. An embassy press release said none of the Britons involved had been consulted by Sudanese authorities since the supreme court last month gave relatives the options of having the killers executed, receiving blood money or pardoning them. (Reuters)

Walk home march: Sobbing grandmothers and children scuffled with United Nations troops who blocked an attempt by hundreds of Greek Cypriot refugees to return to their homes in Turkish-occupied north Cyprus on Sunday.

Mideast tour: Three European Economic Community foreign ministers plan a Middle East tour in November and hope to meet Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, diplomats said.

48 executed: Iran executed at least 48 people in the last few days, 41 of them convicted narcotic drug traffickers, ending a nearly two-month lull in mass executions, Tehran residents reached by telephone said on Sunday.

Hundreds register for poll in Jordan

AMMAN, Oct 15, (AP): More than 600 candidates registered yesterday for Jordan's first general elections in 22 years, a note that will help seal the kingdom's separation from the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

"People want freedom. They want jobs. And they want to lower the prices," said Abdullah Al Kaseisy, who is seeking one of the Amman area's 24 seats in the new 80-member Parliament.

Campaigning for the Nov 8 election officially opened yesterday. Amman residents awoke to find hundreds of campaign banners suspended over busy streets and armies of campaign workers showing leaflets under wind-shield wipers.

Several tried appeals to women voters, who can cast ballots and seek office for the first time in a general election. None have been held since they gained the vote in 1974.

In Amman, retired army officers lined up with Muslim fundamentalists, communists, capitalists, women's rights activists and former Palestinian fighters to submit their names.

The Interior Ministry said 602 candidates registered nationwide, the first of three days to sign up. Local governors have three days to approve or reject candidates. Those spurned can appeal to courts, which must rule within another three days.

Officials earlier said that 920 people across the country were planning to run in the first nationwide voting since April 1967, two months before Israel captured the West Bank.

Kopp involved in Irangate

ZURICH, Oct 15, (Reuters): The husband of a former Swiss justice minister, who was forced to resign because of a drugs and money-laundering scandal, was involved in the Irangate affair, a Zurich newspaper said today.

Sonntagsbueh, quoting former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) member Richard Brenneke, said Hans Kopp played a major part in arranging the secret sale of US weapons to Iran. Kopp has denied the charges.

Kopp's wife, Elizabeth, last month became Switzerland's first ex-cabinet minister to be charged with a criminal offence.



Mother appeals

The mother of a Lebanese jailed in Cyprus for eight years for smuggling arms appealed to the Cypriot government on Sunday to reduce his sentence.

"I plead with the Cypriot government to have mercy on my son and reduce the court's sentence to a minimum. My son did not commit any harm to the Cypriot government or people whom we respect," said Salma, the mother of Emile Alam Eidin Ghazali.

Ghazali was among six Lebanese convicted over an alleged plot to kill Lebanese Christian Army commander Michel Aoun by shooting down his helicopter at Larnaca airport in May.

The father and mother of Ghazali, read a newspaper that carried the news of their son's imprisonment for eight years in Cyprus. (Reuters wirephoto)

Tight security for Egypt-Libya talks

MERSA MATRUH, Egypt, Oct 15, (Agencies): Troops ringed a cliffside guesthouse in this Mediterranean resort today ready for Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi's first visit to Egypt for 16 years to talk with his old foe, President Hosni Mubarak.

Roads have been swept, walls painted white and street lights repaired while overnight the town recaptured some of its World War Two flavour as the rumble of military trucks echoed on the dusty streets and helicopters roared overhead.

One witness spotted the armoured presidential Mercedes of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak being brought into town tied to the back of a truck.

Privately officials said Khaddafi's visit was likely to start with a face-to-face reconciliation meeting with Mubarak early on Monday.

The newspaper Al Ahram said in its early Sunday editions that Mubarak and Khaddafi would meet on Monday and reported a senior Libyan delegation arrived on Friday in Marsa Matruh to make preparations.

The Middle East News Agency (Mena) also said preparations were under way for the meeting "in the next few days" in Marsa Matruh, about 500 kilometres northwest of Cairo.

Mena said the summit "would be followed by a series of exchanged visits" between the Arab leaders and their talks would deal with means of developing and promoting Egyptian-Libyan relations and various Arab issues.

Iraq plans grand celebrations for new Faw city

BAGHDAD, Oct 15, (AP): The government appointed a new governor for the war-devastated city of Faw just days before the population will be allowed to return, the governor of neighbouring Basra said yesterday.

Anwar Saeed Al Hadithi told the Associated Press in a telephone interview that the new governor of Faw, a port city which had a population of about 50,000, is Najib Mohammad Salman, who has already assumed office along with other government officials.

Iraq is planning for grand celebrations on Oct 25 to mark the inauguration of the new city and its reopening to the civilian population, evacuated immediately after the war broke out in September 1980.

President Saddam Hussein has sent special envoys to all Arab leaders inviting them to attend the celebrations, but there is no word yet on who is coming.

Al Hadithi said life will return to normal in the city, which lies on the west bank of the Shatt Al-Arab waterway. The ceasefire line runs down the middle of the disputed waterway.

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Al Hadithi said all the main rebuilding projects have been completed in the city, virtually destroyed during the 8-year Gulf

war with Iran.

The government has rebuilt offices, schools, hospitals and repaved the city streets.

The Basra governor said the government has allocated plots of land to each family who used to live in Faw to rebuild a new house in addition to more than 10,000 dinars (\$30,000).

Locals are expected to start building their houses as soon as they return, he said.

Al Hadithi said all rivers and the irrigation system in the area were cleaned so that farmers can start planting for the coming winter growing season.

Waite is alive, church told

LONDON, Oct 15, (AP): The Church of England said today it has been assured by a reliable Iranian informant that missing envoy Terry Waite is alive on his 1,000th day in captivity.

The unidentified source also provided assurances that two other missing Britons — journalist John McCarthy and northern Irish teacher Brian Keenan — are alive, said Eve Kealey, a spokeswoman for Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie.

Waite, 50, the archbishop's personal emissary, dropped out of sight in Beirut on Jan 20, 1987 while trying to negotiate the release of two US hostages.

EVENTS

CINEMA

Al Andalus
Arabic film
Salmiya
Hall booked
Al Hamra
Devil's Three
Drive-In
Arabic film
Al Firdous
Aitbaar
Fahadhel Open
Dil-e-Nadaan
Fahadhel
Salamander
Al Jahra
Willow
Granada
Deadly Illusion
Salaibkhat
Prize Fighter
Jleeb
Teen Tikka
Ahmadi Drive-in
Low Blow

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait City
Al Kuwait Pharmacy, Safat
Square
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Saada Pharmacy
Al Othman Street
Salmiya and Rumaythiya
Randa Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak Street
Fahadhel
The Gulf Pharmacy
Polyclinic Street
Jleeb Al Shuyookh
Al Salam Pharmacy
Jleeb Al Shuyookh
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
Jahra

PRAYERS

Fajr 4.31 am
Zohr 11.34
Asr 2.50 pm
Maghreb 5.17
Isha 6.34

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.



Some of the dancers rehearsing a scene.



Saju (Arifin Haider) and Rupai (Feroz) share a moment of bliss.

Nakshi Kanthar Maath

A GROUP of Bangladeshis are all set for the opening of their most ambitious venture yet, a musical entitled "Nakshi Kanthar Maath" (The Field of Embroidered Quilt).

The Bengali, written by poet Jassimuddin, centres around the theme of the loss of love through a series of tragic events.

The Bangladeshis, all amateurs, have presented several musicals and dramas in Kuwait. These include a musical entitled Writu Ranga, a musical that revolved around changing seasons and the effect this had on people.

In their latest musical, they hope to depict the innocence of young love, embellished with emotional conflict and music, it promises to be an entertaining venture.

Dr Rashid Haider, who is directing it, said he hopes to transcend the language barrier through music. "Everyone can appreciate the music, and language will be no barrier," he said.

Elaborate sets to recreate the paddy fields of Bangladesh are being built; costumes to match the mood were made and brought from that country.

The production requires a large cast of dancers,

trained by Arifin Haider, who will play, Saju, the female lead.

Feroz M. Raja is Rupai, a principal character in the musical. Haider, who is an eye-specialist, works with complete amateurs, turning them into near professionals. Most performers will be making their debut in this production.

Haider said the theme revolves around Rupai and Saju, and their love which is crushed by social prejudices. Rupai and Saju come from two different villages, separated by paddy fields. After their first meeting at the "Rain Dance", they continue their friendship, which soon turns into love. After several hardships, the lovers are united, only to be separated again. This time, the separation is long and unending. This part of the play shows Saju pining for Rupai's return. He never comes back.

The story gives wide scope for dramatising situations, and presenting them through dance and music. "It will be a spectacle of emotions, music and dance," said Haider.

The musical will be performed in the first week of November at the Doha Entertainment City theatre.

KTV 1

MORNING PERIOD

9.30 The opening and Holy Quran
9.40 Sabah Al Khair news and variety
9.50 Around the World: Cartoon serial
10.05 Magazine D'Actualite
10.20 Al Ghaba: Daily Arabic serial (Part I), starring Suhair Ramzi, Yousif Shaban, Nawal Abu Al Fotooh, and Najah Al Mouji
11.35 United Arab Emirates popular arts: Variety programme, (Part 2)
12.20 Sabah Al Khair news
12.30 News summary
12.35 Holy Quran and Closedown

EVENING PERIOD

4.00 The opening and Holy Quran
4.15 The World Today via Satellite
4.45 Al Forsan Al Thaltha: Cartoon serial (Part

17) Children and Summer: Local children programme, presented by Mama Anisa
6.00 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements
6.15 Al Tareeq Illa Al Qods: Historical serial (Part 15)
7.15 Holy Quran and Science: Religious programme, presented and prepared by Dr Ahmad Shawqi
8.00 Onsiyat Al Ethneen: Local programme, prepared and presented by Mohammed Al Barjes
8.30 Good evening and local news
9.00 Arabic news
9.45 Ahlan Ya Jeddo Al Aziz: Arabic serial (Part 14)
10.30 Masra Al Mutanabi: Historical serial (Part 3), starring Abdullah Ghaith, Sameeha Ayoub, and Ameena Rizq
11.45 News summary

11.50 The World Today via Satellite
12.15 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Opening announcement & Holy Quran
6.10 Little Rascals: A cartoon series for children
6.30 Wild Life "Camel": An Afghan immigrant introduced the "camel" into Australia where it grew in great numbers...
7.00 Roving Report: A weekly round-up of local, Arab and international news, events and activities...
7.30 Charles in Charge "Piece of Cake": All the family members are preparing themselves to receive their absent father...but matters has changed unexpectedly.
8.00 News in English

8.30 The Scientific programme. A local scientific programme discussing various scientific topics...
9.00 Studio 5-B "Rags of Richness": As the marriage of the coquettish co-host of the morning television talk-show fails, she plans to return to her old ex-boyfriend, whom she finds has changed a lot...
10.00 Better Days "Never Blow Up the World": A new beautiful girl student joins the school where two close friends misunderstood her behaviour...
10.30 Jake and the Fatman "Bewitched, Bothered & Bewildered": A gang forges and smuggles coins... Jake with the help of the Fatman's boss plan to chase the gang...
11.30 News in brief
11.45 Magazine D'Actualite

Bharat Mela '89

LAST Friday, the UMO Bharat Mela-week 2, was conducted at the Indian embassy auditorium.

It started at 9.00 am with the inter-school quiz competition. This was inaugurated by the director of the Indian School J.A.S. Newton. Four of the Indian Schools in Kuwait participated: The Senior Indian School — Salmiya, the Junior Indian School — Salmiya, The New Indian School — Jabriyah and the Indian School — Mangaf.

Due to the large age span the contestants were divided into two groups, junior and senior.

The results of the quiz are: The senior group was won by New Indian School, Jabriyah. The team members being: Pawan Mehra, Karika Perumal, Shaheen, Joe Cherin, Vinu Sebastian. The individual top scorer was Shaheen.

The junior group won by Sr. Indian School, Salmiya. The team members are: Rohit Thomas Koshy, Parthasarathy Sreenivasan, Alistair D'Silva, Zean Zarina John, Vanitha Dhanu. The individual top scorer is Alistair D'Silva.

At 6.00 pm a fancy dress competition was inaugurated by Varghese Gee, First Secretary of the Indian Embassy. More than 150 competitors took part in this very popular event. The following were selected as finalists. They are expected to compete in the finals on November 9 at the Sharq auditorium.

Group 1: Anil Gee Varghese, Indian School Mangaf; Leena Jamal, Indian School, Salmiya; Linzy and Paul, Carmel School, Salmiya; Nishal Chandramohan, Indian School, Salmiya; Rajanji Ashok Kumar, Indian School, Salmiya; Rani Paul Wadswa, Carmel School, Salmiya; Seeba



Two of the fancy dress contestants.



Junior group quiz winners and their quiz master Rajan Daniel.

Jamal, Indian School, Fahadhel.
Group 2: Monica Baptist, Carmel School, Salmiya; Ruchi Raina, Jr. Indian School, Salmiya; Rashmi Ashok, Indian School, Salmiya; Subha Suresh, Carmel School, Salmiya.
Group 3: Mohideen Chayathottam, Raju Thirumoolpuram, T.K. Sulekha.
The judges were Raman, Madhu, Gopi and Isaac.
Kunhimohamed welcomed gathering and Rajan K. John recorded vote of thanks.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Islamic Art

A SIX week — 12 lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in English at the Dar Al Aithar Al Islamiyyah on Sunday and Tuesday mornings from 10.00 - 12.00 noon, October 29 through December 5, 1989.

An eight week — eight lecture course on Islamic Art will be given in Arabic at the Dar Al Aithar Al Islamiyyah on Monday afternoons from 4.00 - 6.00 pm from October 30 through December 19, 1989.

To register for either of these courses please sign up at the Dar Al Aithar during museum hours 8.30 am - 12.30 pm.

SOCIAL

Colva Nite

OCT 19: Annual Colva Nite at New Ballroom of Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Top Ranks in attendance. For details contact Tel. 2413884 2434776/56291-41 4310913 after 5 pm.

Navelium Youth Centre

NOV 16: A annual get-together nite with live music from "Stepping Stones and Top-Ranks" having lots more amusements, surprises awaiting at Le Mirage ballroom — Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Contact: Mr Alex — 2426334, Mr Marian — 2416945

Breeze 89

Tivim Centre's Breeze 89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam Hotel's new ballroom on 26.10.89 at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music. Highlights include Made For Each Other Contest, a Ball Room Competition and a lot of surprises. For further information please contact Casimiro or Mario on Tel. No. 2441860/67, after 3.30 pm.

Star Nite

DEC 21: Star Nite Stepping

Stones have stepped in and with Perfect Strangers it's going to be a nite to Celebrate Yulitde. Fun fare for children and variety programme for others starting from 5-8.30 pm and goes on from 9 pm until sumptuous buffet mid-night. A salore of prizes with Hamper lucky draws under \$55 sponsorship invitations with Shop No. 34 ex New Super Market and contact Tel. 5331940, 2413706 Res.

Deep Dewail

OCT 19, at 7.00 pm: Indian Arts Circle, Funatiles, Organised by Satkar, a musical evening with dances, songs and a brief comedy drama, to celebrate the festival of lights — Deepawali. For invitation cards, contact: Rajpal Tyagi, 5623545; Pushpender Sharma, 5620810.

British Council

Woody Woodpecker and His Friends: Wednesday, Oct 18 at 6.00 pm; Thursday, Oct 19 at 10.30 pm. Meet the fast-talking Woody Woodpecker and his friends: Buzz Buzzard, Chilly Willy, Wally Walrus and Andy Panda. Join them in their full-filled adventures and have a great time!

Free admission but please book seats by calling: 2515512, 2533204 and 2533227.

Carnatic Music

THERE will be a Music Performance by Maharajapuram Santhanam on October 17, 1989. For your reservations contact Tel: 5627718 or 5631230 or 5612114.

Jazz Night

OCT 18: Jazz Night, featuring June Woolston (vocals), at Messilah Beach Hotel, Al Amal, at 8 pm. Also features Highspirits with Jack (tenor, sax). For further details call 5640981.

Daniella BBQ

OCT 19: 7 pm. Daniella starts social season with BBQ Evening at the Gazelle Club. For reservations please call Karen-Marie — 3715146; or Winnie — 5733382 before Oct 17.

Carnatic Music

"Carnatic Music by Shri Maharajapuram Santhanam: The Music Performance will be held on 17th October 1989 at Indian Embassy Hall auditorium at 7.30 pm. For collecting your entry passes, please contact: 4898891, 5627718, 5631230, 5612114, 3920820, 3718353.

Condolence meeting

A condolence meeting will be held on Oct 19, Thursday at 6.00 pm in the premises of Bangladesh embassy in Kuwait, by the Shatadal cultural group for the late famous singer Hemanta Mukherjee and the distinguished litterateur Dr. Abu Hena Mustafa Kamal. A cultural function will follow the programme. All are cordially invited.

Flaskik's Halloween

THE Filipino Ladies Association in Kuwait (Flaskik) celebrates the finest weather in Kuwait and the magical aura Halloween night with a costume party at the Meridien Hotel's Al Jahra Ballroom on Tuesday, October 31, 1989. Flaskik friends and supporters should look forward to an enjoyable evening as once again Flaskik enjoins the Filipino community and their friends to share some of their blessings to the distressed Filipino workers in Kuwait. The proceeds of Halloween night will be used to fund the vital welfare project of Flaskik

which has relentlessly given assistance to the unfortunate Filipino workers here.

Guests are encouraged to wear their costumes to the affair to add an aura of mystery to the evening. Aside from a sumptuous dinner and a show featuring a bevy of talents from Flaskik friends, a contest among the guests will offer trophies and other valuable prizes to the spookiest costume, the most original costume and most colourful. A special contest will also judge Michael Jackson's look-alike in the best-selling movie — "Thriller." Flaskik president Grace Fe N. Covarrubias and the Flaskik Executive Board promises a very entertaining evening for all Flaskik supporters. Tickets are available at KD 5 in various outlets: Bobby's gift shop, Ambassador Store, Kabayan Restaurant, Mahubay Restaurant, Far East Restaurant, Good Hand Restaurant and Durran International Exchange.

For more details please contact the event chairperson Flaskik Pro Rose Formantes, Veep Chary Nepomuceno Tel: 5624509, Marilyn Inductivo Tel. 3940600 ext. 4521 and 2230, RC Ruiz, Tel. 4819920 or 4849400 ext. 298, Cely Cayaba, Tel. 3940600 ext. 4118, Evelyn Dungo Tel. 5312700 ext. 4521 and 2269, Malou Jadena, 4892714, Eva Sabay Tel. 4572549.

Piano recital at the Meridien

BORN in 1962 in South West of France Olivier Cazal is a very talented pianist. At the age of 12 he already won a gold medal followed by a number of other first prizes in piano competition all over Europe.

He will be in Kuwait for one recital only on Wednesday Oct 18, 1989 at Al Jahra Ballroom of Meridien Hotel 8.00 pm.

Programme: Debussy Preludes 1; Ravel Scarbo; Chopin Sonate No. 2 op. 35 & Sonate No. 3 op. 58.



1989 (Kuwait international Hotel)

IST "BIG" MEETING: 6

November 1989 (Kuwait Regency Palace)

Watch the Arab Times for more information on LIL

Ladies International League Bazaar: to be held Nov 2nd, Kuwait International Hotel from 10 am to 6 pm. All those who want to be vendors, please call 5325131 from 10 am to 7 pm for further information.

Ladies International League Bazaar: to be held Thursday, Nov 2 at Kuwait International Hotel, Safat Room, from 10 am to 6 pm. Come and buy handicrafts from all over the world.

Also, tents and Al Assaf Gifts (SAS) will be there. Raffle and door prizes.

HOTELS

Kuwait International

Afternoon Tea: Served at La Patissierie from 3 pm to 6 pm. Offers the finest teas, delicious salmon and cucumber sandwiches, mouth watering pastries and not to forget those delicious scones, strawberry jam and lovely fresh cream. Pianist and harpist in the evenings.

Perrier Promotion: For that tingling taste one can try Perrier Lemon, Perrier Lime, Perrier Lime and fresh kiwi juice. Perrier and apple juice or a variety of other creations. Served in all the outlets.

Falaka: Daily Chef's Special for lunch and dinner. Special mezzeh buffet on Thursday evenings. Live entertainment during dinner.

La Palma: Presents a culinary trip around the world featuring authentic Chinese, Indian, Mexican, African, Italian, British, German/Austrian, Turkish and Arabic dishes. Theme nights on Saturdays and Tuesdays. Telephone: 2530000/2533000.

Kuwait Regency Palace

THE Kuwait Regency Palace has prepared a break for your weekends and public

holidays.

2 nights/3 days stays ... Wednesday-Friday.

1 night/2 days stay ... Thursday-Friday.

The package will include: free welcome drink, free breakfast, free daily newspaper, late check-out, free entrance to Al Fotouh Health Centre which includes beach, pool, health club, racket sports, jogging track and a lot more... enjoy the video programmes from 10.00 am - 2.00 am.

All the above at the exceptional rate of KD12.750 per person per night sharing a double room. (Children under 10 years sharing their parents room are free of charge).

On top of all that, you can enjoy the ... BBQ night every Wednesday at KD6.000 per person — children at half price. See food night every Thursday at KD7.500 per person — children half price. Each Friday from 7 - 11 am, come along to Al Saliah and enjoy our family breakfast at KD2.500 per person. Give mum a day off. Have breakfast with us for the children, there are cartoon characters, videos and gifts in their own special area.

For reservations please call 5728000 ext. 6061/6012.

Kuwait Plaza Hotel

NEW menus every day at Al Dallah Coffee Shop with variety of Oriental, Arabic and Continental dishes to suit everybody's taste. Enjoy more than thirty different appetizers, mezzah, main course and dessert. A lavish buffet for KD2.995 only. Breakfast with a selection of more than 25 dishes to choose from and savour. Eat as much as you can with coffee and tea. It is the breakfast you like most for fills 995 only.

MARCO POLO: The Italian Restaurant in the heart of the city, features authentic Italian food with our resident Duo Stan and Alice who play your favourite songs and music.

At the Holiday Inn

THE COFFEE SHOP: A variety of continental and

Oriental cuisine to suit everyone's taste for lunch or dinner at KD5.000 per pax and half price for children.

AL ANDALUS: Thursday. Arabian Night. Savour the exotic food especially prepared for the night. Our local entertainers provide wonderful music.

FAMILY BRUNCH: Friday, a wholesome day for the children. Bring along your kid and enjoy entertainment from Walt Disney cartoon characters and music by the great magician. Prizes and surprises awaits each kid. Price KD5.000 for adults and half per kid.

THE SWIMMING POOL: From 8.30 pm have a great night out by the pool to soothe the summer heat. Barbecue, music, games, prizes and surprises awaits each one. Bring your family 'n friends 'n savour our delicious Shazad barbecue at KD5.500 per pax and KD2.750 per child.

SPORTS

Dunhill Bridge

THE Dunhill Bridge tournament 1989-90 begins on October 2 at the Messilah Beach Hotel. It will stretch over 17 weeks, time being 7.45pm every Monday. The best 9 scores will be considered and there are lots of prizes to be won.

Gala

Dec 8: Expatriates Club will hold a gala social for children and adults at the Tent, SAS Hotel. Fifty-five attractive hamper prizes and other gifts will be given away.

Children's sports

A CHILDREN'S sports festival will be held on Oct 27 at the University ground, Shuwaikh. All Bangladeshi children are eligible to participate. Each participant will be given a free T-shirt. Willing participants are requested to contact any of the following telephones for registration: 4840759, 4710306, 4312989, 4312730, 5716586, 3714353, 3626646.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

UK keen to expand trade with Baghdad

BAGHDAD, Iraq, Oct 15, (AP): British Energy Secretary John Wakeham said today that Britain is keen to promote business with Iraq following the ceasefire that ended hostilities in the Gulf war last year.

Wakeham told the Associated Press that Britain has offered Iraq advanced technology and services for its post-war reconstruction and industrial development project.

The minister, who is leading a group of British businessmen and experts at an oil, gas and petrochemical seminar, said a number of important contracts have been signed between Iraqi and British companies in various fields.

The seminar, attended by representatives of British Petroleum, British Gas, British Steel and other companies, was organised by the Energy Department in London to promote sales to Iraq.

Iraq is a major trading partner of Britain. British exports to the Iraqi market last year reached about \$500 million (\$785 million).

Britain last year extended a \$40 million (\$535 million) line of credit to Iraq to cover British exports and projects loans.

Wakeham said Britain would extend a similar credit line for next year, depending on Iraq's honouring its debt repayments.

He said Britain is offering Iraq technology in drilling and exploration to help it exploit its huge oil reserves.

Fed ready to prevent panic selling

(Continued from Page 1)

the market that we will satisfy liquidity needs. Our actions in the market should make it clear.

He said the reserve board might issue a statement if a broad decline sets in tomorrow, but at the moment, based on Friday's developments, it did not feel such a statement was urgently needed.

Charles Schwab and Co., one of the largest US discount brokerages, opened its 110 branches yesterday and was flooded with thousands of calls from worried investors who wanted to sell stock.

On Friday, the Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks plummeted 190.58 points, or 6.91 per cent, to 2,560.26, erasing nearly \$200 billion in stocks' paper value. The plunge was spurred by an announcement that financing was unavailable for a \$6.75 billion buyout of United Airlines parent UAL Corp.

In points, the drop was the second-largest in history behind the 500-point Black Monday crash of Oct 19, 1987. The crash was preceded by a decline of 108 points the Friday before.

San Francisco-based Charles Schwab received 3,000 orders within one hour of opening, with 90 per cent on the sell side, senior Vice-President Hugo Quackenbush said.

Israeli share prices plunged by eight per cent in early trading today as the Tel Aviv stock market reacted to Friday's Wall Street slide.

Tel Aviv, the only stock exchange in the world to trade on Sundays, was the first to respond to the 191-point drop in the Dow Jones industrial average.

"What is happening here is essentially a reaction to news of what happened in New York on Friday," Tel Aviv stock exchange managing director Yossi Nitzani told Israel radio.

Senior Central Bank officials from the Group of Seven (G-7 industrial countries) held a series of informal telephone contacts to co-ordinate their response to the slump in US stock prices.

Friday's slump is expected to continue this week, with some analysts predicting another major sell-off on Monday.

"Programme trading could drive it down another couple of hundred points," said one analyst, referring to the Dow Jones industrial average.

Tokyo investors are nervous their market could fall sharply tomorrow after Wall Street's plunge but any negative reaction is likely to be limited and temporary, brokers and analysts said.

"Of course the trend of the New York market has very serious implications for the stock exchange in Tokyo," said Masaharu Sasaki, managing director of Tachibana Securities. "However, it fell for reasons internal to the United States."

Oswal group plans service centre in UAE

Bindal mega issue to be launched

By M.C. Bose
Business editor

BINDAL Agro Chemicals has hinted at maintaining the dividend at 50 per cent on the enlarged capital.

Bindal Agro, is entering the capital market with an issue of 12.50 fully convertible debentures aggregating to Rs5,000 million for which consent from the Controller of Capital Issues has been received. The Rights Issue opened for subscription on Oct 12, 1989, and the Public Issue including preferential offer to shareholders of group companies, Oswal Agro Mills Ltd and Oswal Agro Furane Ltd and NRIs opens on Oct 19, 1989.

Abhey Oswal, chairman and managing director of the company told the Arab Times in connection with the launching of the 197.50 lakh — 12.5 per cent

secured fully convertible debenture of Rs200 each, aggregating Rs3,950 million to partly finance the Rs6,950 million gas-based fertiliser project at Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh. He said the company would implement the project in a record time of 24 months. He estimated a turnover of over Rs3,750 million from this fertiliser complex alone and said that it would save more than Rs2,500 million of foreign exchange per annum for the country by way of import substitution. He pointed out that the country's imports were expected to be Rs 20,000 million in 1989-90 and Rs25,000 million in 1990-91.

Oswal said that entry of the



A view of the audience.

Oswal Agro Group into fertiliser is a logical extension of existing agro-based activities of the group. India is a net importer of fertiliser even today.

Considering the present subsidy policy of the government, he said on production of fertilisers (based on 20 years depreciation), the proposed Scheme of Finance for the project, the cash break even of the project comes to about 90 days. At 100 per cent capacity utilisation, (presently all the existing gas-based projects are running at more than 100 per cent capacity utilisation) the project will yield profits of over Rs1,300 million per annum i.e. Rs40 lakhs per working day, on the basis of 330 working days in a

year.

Highlighting the speedy implementation of the project, Oswal said that in just two months from the receipt of letter of intent, the company had already acquired the required land. The foundation stone was laid by the prime minister on September 1. The company appointed Projects and Development India (PDIL) as prime consultant for execution of the fertiliser complex. PDIL undertook to complete the mechanical implementation of the plant within a period of 24 months against a normal period of about 32 months. The UP government had already given clearance from the pollution angle. The orders for

long delivery equipment to be manufactured fabricated in the country had been finalised.

The Oswal Agro Group's success has been due to their philosophy to have minimum loan to minimise the cash outflow on account of interest and instalments. As against the net worth of over Rs5,000 million the loans are negligible. The philosophy of minimum borrowings has enabled the group, considerable cash accruals to reward their investors handsomely and to grow rapidly. He said 7,50,000 group shareholders have already experienced the fruits of this philosophy.

So far Oswal Agro Group has been coming out with rights



Abhey Oswal

issues to the existing shareholders in the existing companies and now for the first time after a period of 7 years new investors will have an opportunity to join the family of shareholders.

Oswal said that during the fertiliser complex implementation period, the shareholders would be rewarded even on the enhanced capital "handsomely" from existing activities.

As per mode of conversion, Rs50 per debenture will be converted into one equity share on the expiry of six months from the date of allotment. Another Rs50 per debenture will be converted into one equity share on the expiry of 18 months from the date of allotment. The balance of

Rs100 will be converted into such number of equity shares on the expiry of 36 months from the date of allotment at a premium to be decided by the Controller of Capital Issues.

Apart from the fertiliser projects, the Oswal Agro Group proposes to set up a VAM project and also make massive expansion in petrochemicals. After the implementation of these projects, by 1991, the group's turnover is expected to cross the Rs12,000 million mark and profit Rs3,000 million mark. The net worth is likely to be Rs11,000 million.

The Bindal Agro offer is one of the four "mega-issues" now being floated on the Indian Capital markets. Oswal is confident that he will be able to deliver. There is immense growth potential for the Indian capital market, says Oswal and if some revolutionary steps could be taken by the government like resolving the double taxation issue the response would surprise most. He said the Rs500 million allocation in the Bindal Agro issue for NRIs is just the beginning. Oswal added the groups issues for a project not yet identified publicly would be to the tune of Rs2 billion.

The other companies in the Oswal group are Oswal Agro Mills Ltd and Oswal Agro Furane Ltd. Shareholders of these companies would also get preferential allotment of debentures in the Bindal Agro issue. In seven years, the turnover of the group increased from Rs4 million to Rs4 billion and the

profits rose from Rs7.50 million to Rs600 million. The number of investors in the Oswal Agro group increased from 11,000 to 750,000. Its project range include agro products like sugar, rice and vanaspathi, petrochemicals like polythene plastic, ethylene, propylene and benzene and alcohol chemicals like acetic acid, butyl acetate and butanol.

He said the project, to come up on 991 acres, stand to gain from various incentives from the state and central governments. Apart from the central investment subsidy for backward district projects, sales tax exemption for six years and rebate and power concessions all will go to add up to a profit of Rs1.3 billion after income tax each year on full capacity utilisation.

Oswal arrived in Kuwait on Tuesday and addressed investors' conference at Kuwait Meridian. The conference was held in connection with his company's issue of fully convertible bonds aggregating Rs5 billion. The conference was well-attended.

Oswal said a permanent service centre will be set up in Dubai shortly for the benefit of shareholders in the Gulf region which will help its Gulf-based NRI investors. The Dubai centre will be linked to the main office in Bombay, handling any enquiries or servicing other transactions. The group already has service centres in India at Bombay, Madras, Baroda, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Jaipur and Ludhiana.

How to head off world stock crash

Monetary authorities determined to calm nerves

LONDON, Oct 15, (Reuters): World monetary authorities, confronting the possibility of a new global stock crash, mounted a co-ordinated campaign over the weekend to limit the fallout from Friday's slump in US share prices on Wall Street.

Central bank officials in Europe said it seemed inevitable that stock markets world-wide would be in for a jittery Monday but authorities were determined to calm nerves and head off a repeat of the "Black Monday" collapse exactly two years ago.

Central bank chiefs from the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations faced, however, a serious dilemma in deciding whether to pump cash into markets — a tactic that contained the 1987 crisis but also, in hindsight, fuelled inflation.

"The last thing we need in a high inflation country like Britain is more liquidity in the markets," said Paul Chertkow, chief international economist at Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc.

Central bankers from the G-7 — the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada — were in close contact by telephone on Saturday and Sunday to co-ordinate their response when markets reopen in the Far East and Europe.

Officials said they carried out an extensive review of the 1987 crash — when Wall Street fell 22.6 per cent — and believed that despite similarities, Friday's 190.58 point fall in the Dow Jones average did not presage a world slump.



Nigel Lawson

Commercial bank economists said central bank authorities are likely to be considering a four-point strategy:

■ Calming markets by pointing out differences to the 1987 crash. The Bank of England stressed on Saturday there was no need for the London market to follow Wall Street. US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady has also sought to reassure investors.

■ Stepping up monitoring of individual banks and trading houses in major financial centres to head off failures which could rapidly lead to a crisis of confidence among investors.

■ Standing ready to inject liquidity into markets and relax monetary policy, by far the most contentious issue facing policy-makers this weekend.

■ Taking action to counter volatile currency movements. The dollar slid sharply on Friday in New York and expectations

that the US Federal Reserve could cut interest rates to cushion Wall Street might push the currency even lower. Senior central bank currency dealers were also in telephone contact today.

The shakeout on Wall Street was triggered by growing nervousness over the financing of US takeover by "junk bonds" and specifically the failure of a buyout group to raise \$6.75 billion for UAL Corporation, parent of United Airlines.

That has given central bankers in other major financial centres some solace, since the Welter of highly-leveraged takeover deals has been largely confined to Wall Street.

It has also encouraged hopes that the G-7 can talk markets into a calmer state and head off a crisis that way.

"One must not panic but keep a cool head," French Finance Minister Pierre Bérégovoy was quoted in the Journal Du Dimanche newspaper as saying. "This calls for very close co-operation among economic and monetary officials."

But economists say central banks themselves may have perhaps unwittingly been party to the new US stock slump.

They have consistently warned about the dangers of junk bonds — high risk, high yields securities — and Japanese banks were reluctant to commit funds to the UAL deal on Friday.

Central banks can inject cash into the market by easing interest rates to make borrowing cheaper, dropping the reserves

commercial banks have to hold against their operations as security or placing central bank funds in the money market.

Central bank officials said they were concerned that two years ago their action to pump liquidity into markets succeeded in calming nerves but also stored up inflationary problems for the future as interest rates were cut perhaps too quickly.

Within a week of Black Monday two years ago, the United States, West Germany and Britain had eased their monetary policy as Washington and Bonn sought to smooth over an acrimonious row over an earlier rate rise by the Frankfurt-based Bundesbank.

Economists expect the US Federal Reserve to relax its grip on credit since authorities had already been nudging the cost of money lower following signs of a weakening in the economy.

The New York Times quoted an unidentified Federal Reserve official today as saying: "Markets will be able to count on us to make sure the financial system stays liquid."

But for central banks in Western Europe and Japan, which in the last 10 days raised interest rates to slow their economies and dampen inflation, such a move would go against the grain.

The conflict is most evident in Britain where Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson has staked the credibility of his — and the government's — policy-making on high interest rates to squeeze excess credit demand and support a flagging pound.

Bankers face dilemma

Banks poised to counter slump

NEW YORK, Oct 15, (Reuters): US authorities today sought to ease the danger of another Wall Street plunge when the market reopens tomorrow, saying cash may be pumped into the banking system to meet extra demand.

A Federal Reserve source told Reuters the Central Bank would be likely to add cash to the financial system if stock prices declined tomorrow. This could help to stem a decline by easing liquidity problems and deterring people from selling shares to raise cash.

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their response when markets reopen.

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Investors waited anxiously to see how the Tokyo Stock Market would react to Friday's 190-point fall in the Dow Jones average of US industrial shares. Shares plunged in Tel Aviv, the principal market functioning today.

But traders, analysts and commentators, led by US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, generally expressed the view the US economy was fundamentally sound.

Most expected any decline tomorrow would not match that of Black Monday, October 19, 1987, when the Dow crashed 508 points or 22 per cent, touch off widespread — and subsequently unrealised — fears of a global depression.

If the share index drops by 250 points on Monday — half that of Black Monday — trading will be halted under a safety net set in after the 1987 crash.

Central bank chiefs face a dilemma in deciding whether to pump cash into markets — a tactic that contained the 1987 crisis but also fuelled inflation.

REUTERS 25 years in Kuwait



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REUTERS

Plans to upgrade freight services

JUBAI, Oct 15: The first door-to-door cargo service directly linking suppliers world-wide with customers in the UAE and the rest of the Gulf region has been announced by Gulf Express Freight (GEF) in Dubai.

The freight forwarding division of Gulf Agency Company (GAC) will introduce what amounts to a freight industry breakthrough in the GCC countries as part of wide-ranging plans to upgrade its services.

Gulf Express Freight's new door-to-door service, which swings into operation at Jebel Ali Free Trade Zone, Port Rashid and Dubai International Airport, will cater for cargo of any size arriving in the emirate by sea or air.

"We are completing the link between suppliers and their customers," said Gulf Express Freight marketing manager, Bill Hill. "At the moment, goods come into port from overseas suppliers and are cleared by the customs."

"We will be meeting a growing demand by taking cargo all the way to its final destination. This kind of service is in operation in Europe and other parts of the world, but is new to the Gulf region."

Gulf Express Freight will use its own fleet of around 50 vehicles — from small pick-ups to 40-foot, temperature-controlled trailers — to transport cargo to suppliers in the UAE and throughout the Gulf.

"The new service will bring us a lot closer to our customers," said newly appointed Gulf Express Freight general manager Ingvar Svendsen. "We will be handling anything from 40-foot containers down to small consignments of a few kilos."

"We have a warehouse in the Dubai Drydocks Estate, along with a customs-bonded cargo terminal in Port Rashid which offers an additional 20,000 square foot of warehousing. This warehousing can be available 24 hours a day on request."

Cargo Gulf LCL consolidation containers arriving from the USA, Europe and the Far East will be quickly discharged using newly-fitted specialised container ramps. Gulf Express Freight is the local agent of Cargo Gulf.

Oil workers end strike

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Oct 15, (AP): Oil workers returned to work yesterday after a three-week strike in the vital petroleum industry over a wage dispute with the management of three state-run oil companies.

The three companies and the oilfield workers trade union reached separate agreements for three-year contracts providing 5 per cent average wage increases, improved pension plans and cost-of-living allowances to 4,650 production workers.

The strike at Trinotop, Trinmar and Rinotop began after months of negotiations and conciliation talks by the Labour Ministry.

The union was demanding a 7 per cent wage hike, while the companies offered 3 per cent.

After Prime Minister ANR Robinson said last week the strikes were "threatening the national interest," a special inter-ministerial team was established to propose compromise offers, which were eventually accepted.

Tax conference

NICOSIA, Oct 15, (Reuters): Cyprus will host the 10th technical conference of the Commonwealth Association of Tax Administrators from Oct 23-28, the Cyprus News Agency said yesterday.

It said 56 representatives from 32 countries would take part in the gathering in Nicosia.

EXCHANGE RATES

Indian rupee	17.830
Sri Lankan rupee	7.570
Pakistani rupee	14.260
Bangladesh taka	9.180
US dollar	29900
Pound sterling	47450
UAE dirham	68138
Deutsche mark	16050
Japanese yen	0021195

Interest Rates

KLWAIT, Oct 15, (Kuna):	Following are the average KLD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.	
Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	8-1/4	8-1/2
3 months	8-1/4	8-1/2
6 months	8-1/4	8-1/2
1 year	8-1/4	8-1/2

Fed to nudge interest rates down

US economy heating up, show economic indicators

NEW YORK, Oct 15, (UPI): Wholesale prices rose a seasonally adjusted 0.9 per cent in September, wiping out three months of declines, and retail sales rose a surprising 0.3 per cent for the month, the government said on Friday.

The two economic indicators showed the economy was heating up rather than slowing and did not suggest a climate in which the Federal Reserve Bank typically would have to lower interest rates.

The increase in the producer price index for finished goods, a harbinger of future inflation at the consumer level, follows drops in wholesale prices in the past three months, including a 0.4 per cent drop in August.

Taking out food and energy costs, which are often discounted by economists because of their volatility, the September increase was 0.7 per cent.

The big jump in wholesale prices during September may put pressure on the Federal Reserve not to go forward with the gradual easing of interest rates widely expected in financial markets for fear of rekindling high inflation.

September retail sales outpaced market forecasts for sales to remain essentially flat. The government said seasonally adjusted advance estimates of retail sales for September were \$145.2 billion, 7 per cent above the same month in 1988.

Earlier in the week, the stock market and dollar languished temporarily amid concerns the Fed would nudge interest rates down. Bond prices rose slightly.

On Wall Street, James R. Jones, former chairman of the powerful House Budget Committee and the youngest man to serve as White House Chief of Staff, was named chairman of the American Stock Exchange Thursday.

Jones, 50, an Oklahoma Democrat who also served on the House Ways and Means Committee, succeeds Arthur Levitt Jr to become the 15th chairman of the exchange.

Jones said medium-sized, growing companies would continue to be the "focal point" for the exchange, which has fallen far behind the New York Stock Exchange and Midwest Stock Exchange in terms of volume.

Three major New York banks, Chemical Bank, Bank of New York and Chase Manhattan, reported third-quarter losses during the week, resulting primarily from additions to their loan-loss provisions for Latin American loans.

On the takeover front, analysts speculated that Donald Trump's \$7.5 billion bid for the parent of American Airlines could be thwarted by congressional concern over leveraged buyouts of airline companies.

News reports also indicated Amr Corp. was negotiating with the company's pilots' union regarding a buyout in which American's unions would be offered a large stake. In another scenario, financier Robert

Bess was seen as a potential white knight. In other airline news, Northwest Airlines placed an order with Boeing Co. for 90 jetliners worth \$5.2 billion.

Northwest, which recently was acquired by a group headed by financier Alfred Chee, ordered 40 Boeing 757 aircraft and took options for another 40. Six Boeing 747-400 jumbo jets also were ordered and Northwest took options for four more.

The deal was seen as a blow to Airbus Industrie, the European consortium that has provided Northwest with as many as 100 aircraft since 1986.

Northwest's order came in the midst of a two-week-old strike by 43,000 Boeing machinists in Seattle who work on the production lines in Boeing's commercial air-

planes division. Qinetex Australia Ltd's \$1.45 billion bid for MGM/UA Communications Co., which fell apart earlier in the week when Qinetex failed to produce a \$50 million line of credit, could be revived with help from the National Broadcasting Co., an NBC spokesman said Thursday.

NBC said it agreed to become an equity partner in the Qinetex bid for the television and film production company.

In another entertainment industry merger, N.V. Philips Polygram Records bought A and M Records in a deal estimated to be worth \$500 million. A and M recording stars include singers Sting and Janet Jackson and trumpet player Herb Alpert, who co-founded the company.

Project to expand Suez Canal: Adel

Billion-dollar scheme proposed

CAIRO, Oct 15, (Reuters): A proposed billion-dollar scheme to widen and deepen Egypt's Suez Canal could influence designs for the next generation of supertankers, Suez Canal Authority chairman Ezzat Adel said.

Adel told Reuters in a week-end interview the scheme was subject to a 18-month study by Nedeco of the Netherlands and two local partners, the firms Pacer Consultants and Telecon-

sult. The \$1.5 billion economic feasibility contract, financed by the Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, was signed in September, he added.

The 195 km (122 mile) long canal, one of Egypt's top foreign exchange earners along with workers' remittances from abroad, tourism and oil exports, can now take oil tankers up to

140,000 deadweight tons (DWT) with a draught of 53 feet (18 metres). The study was looking at ways of expanding the waterway to accept larger vessels, possibly up to 250,000 DWT with a draught of up to 68 feet (23 metres).

In 1967 — shortly before the Arab-Israeli war erupted in June that year closing the canal for eight years — two thirds of all cargo transiting the waterway was oil. Now it is down to just over a third.

But Adel pointed out that several factors could influence Egypt to scale down the target for expansion, including ship-building costs, the price of bunker oil and freight charges.

"We have to reach a solution attractive to both Suez and ship-owners, but we need a crystal ball to see how markets are going to move in the years to come," he said.

The life cycle of the current generation of supertankers was coming to an end, and by offering sufficient incentives to use Suez, shipbuilders could be encouraged to construct vessels of a size that would take advantage of whatever expansion was eventually implemented. It was all a matter of weighing costs.

Iraq's newly-built pipeline will be delivering 1.65 million barrels a day to Saudi Arabia's west coast by December enhancing the importance of the Red Sea gateway to the Suez Canal as an export outlet.

For Adel, expansion of the canal would cap more than 30 years' work with the Canal Authority. Adel said revenue in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1989 was about \$1.34 billion, up some 40-50 million from the previous financial year.

He pledged no sudden or sharp increase in tolls, saying fees would be kept parallel to the inflation rate in industrial countries which the authority depended upon for imports of cranes, spare parts and telecommunications equipment.

Once plans were finalised, loans providing a grace period for repayments and low interest rates would be sought from foreign governments to finance the expansion, Adel said.

Just under one million Suez Canal net tons — a special unit of measurement used to assess toll charges — moved through Suez each day, down from 1.1 million in 1983 when traffic was at its peak.

Today an average of 62 ships transited the Canal daily compared to 83 in 1983 — demonstrating, Adel said, that vessels had increased in tonnage overall.

City dwellers feel sapped

Nigeria's economy on mend

LAGOS, Oct 15, (Reuters): Muntu Ebsouri, a 27-year-old Nigerian factory worker, once dreamed of owning a colour television but now thinks he's lucky to have a cassette player.

"It's very hard," said Ebsouri, who has seen his purchasing power plummet although he earns 300 naira (\$41) a month, almost twice his naira salary of four years ago.

"Four years ago the money had more value. But this is the key to recovery — that's what they tell us."

Nigeria, black Africa's most populous and, owing to its vast oil reserves, wealthiest country, recently began the fourth year of a structural adjustment programme (SAP) to revive its debt-burdened economy.

The government, which formulated the plan with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), says SAP is working.

"We want to increase the welfare of the people through

increased productivity," said Alhajji Abubakar Alhajji, Minister of planning and budget, got the second half of a \$500 million World Bank loan.

"To increase productivity means you have to discourage imports and encourage exports. It's beginning to happen."

But many Nigerians, and particularly city residents who comprise about a fifth of the country's 100 million people, feel the recovery operation may be a success but they are dying economically.

Frustrations reached boiling point in May when at least 22 people died in student-led anti-austerity riots.

The government shut universities and hastily approved a relief package, including more money for spare parts to revive Lagos's crippled transport system, one of the main gripes of rioters.

"More Nigerians are for SAP than people are led to believe,"

Bad management

Goods piling up at ports

MOSCOW, Oct 15, (Reuters): Imported goods are piling up at Soviet ports while the population suffers severe shortages, Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov said.

"It's intolerable that, now that goods have begun to arrive, our bad management has once again become evident," Ryzhkov said, warning that the government would take harsh measures if the problem was not solved.

In a television interview aired last evening, Ryzhkov said that since the beginning of October 25,000 tonnes of food and several thousand tonnes of soap and detergents, along with piles of other goods, had not been moved inland from ports.

"They haven't been unloaded, they haven't been moved. They are in the open air going bad," he said.

The prime minister announced in June that the

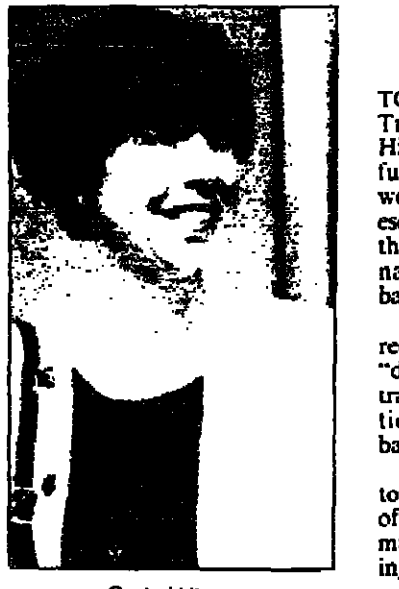
government would spend five billion roubles (\$7.9 billion) this year to import food, including grain, to help relieve shortages upsetting the economy and contributing to widespread unrest.

This summer, one of the main demands of striking coal miners was soap, which has been in short supply for a year and is rationed in many cities.

Ryzhkov said the responsibility for the bottlenecks in ports rested in many cases on local officials, including Communist Party control committees. He said a warning had been issued to rail and other transport managers.

"I must state that if the situation is not corrected in the near future we shall take the harshest measures against all managers, whatever their rank, office or position in the country, because we can no longer accept this," he said.

US trade representative sounds softer tone in trade disputes



Carla Hills

TOKYO, Oct 15, (API): US Trade Representative Carla Hills said yesterday that even fully open markets in Japan would not eliminate US-Japanese trade imbalances, and urged the United States and other nations to also lower trade barriers.

Some US officials have called recently on Japan to provide "dollars and cents" results in trade talks, including negotiations on "structural" trade barriers due to end next summer.

But Mrs Hills, on her first trip to Japan as the top US trade official, said the time frame was much too short to achieve meaningful changes.

"We do want action. I'm not

sending the message that action is not required. The question is what action," she said.

By next summer in the structural talks, Mrs Hills said, "we want a plan of action and a realistic down payment that shows resolve on both sides."

In the structural negotiations, the two countries have focused on factors such as Japan's complex distribution system and the low US savings rate which they say have blocked improvements in the bilateral trade balance.

Mrs Hills said her talks with government and business officials were "quite constructive" and were aimed at establishing good working relationships.

Mrs Hills arrived in Tokyo

Thursday after a visit to South Korea, and was to leave for home Saturday morning. In South Korea, her visit was followed Friday by demonstrations by radical students against US trade pressure.

The US trade representative said other nations, including the United States, also needed to do more to open their markets.

"The Japanese are not the only ones. We have openings that we must achieve ourselves, as do the Europeans. Every market I can think of has protections. If all of those were to open up, I can guarantee to you we would have a geometric increase in world-wide prosperity."

However, Japanese officials said Mrs Hills urged Japan to open its markets wider to US construction companies, satellites and supercomputers. In response, Posts and Telecommunications Minister Sempachi Oishi told her that five of the eight satellites Japan plans to launch this year are American-made, the officials said.

Mrs Hills arrived in Tokyo

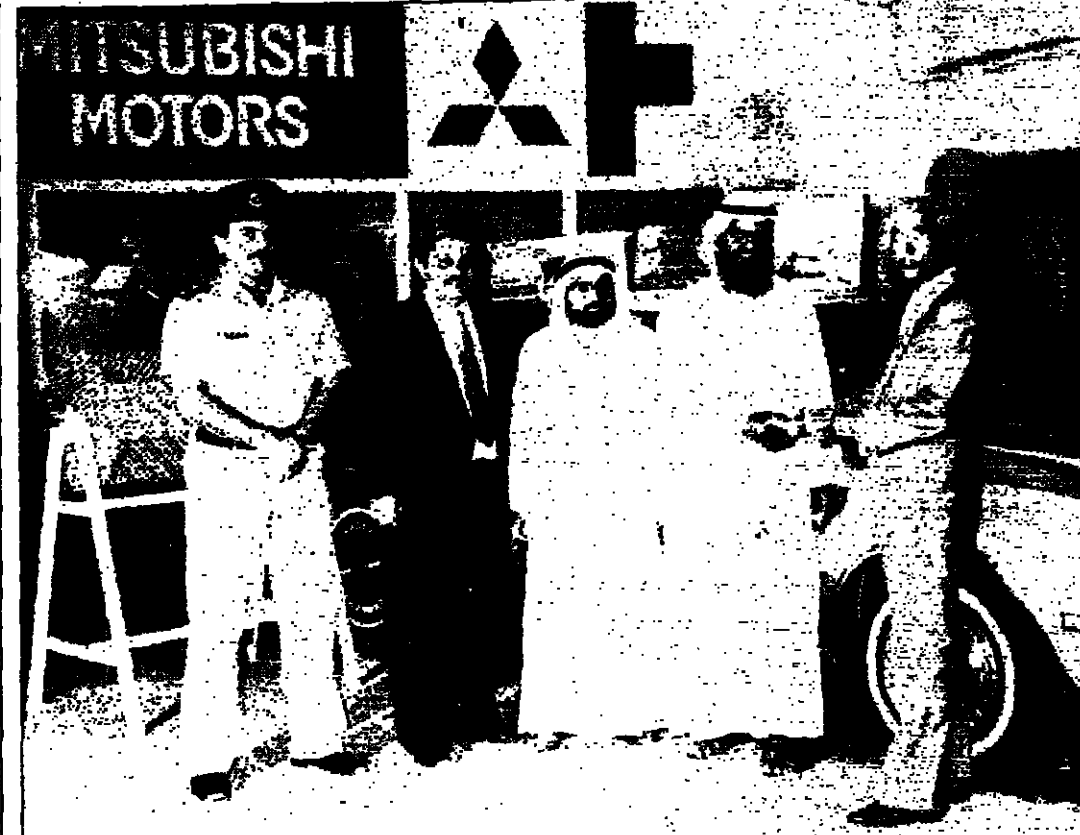
Gas reserves discovered

RIYADH, Oct 15, (Reuters): The Saudi Arabian oil company (Saudi Aramco) announced today it had discovered substantial gas reserves during operations near the capital, Riyadh.

A new and big gas zone was discovered by the company while drilling at the Dilam well number 1 on October 11, 75 km (46 miles) southeast of Riyadh, a Saudi Aramco statement said.

The release said that during a drill of the new zone "sweet gas gushed to the surface within five minutes."

The rate of gas flow measured 50 million cubic ft per day and a 65 degree gas condensate was also recovered, it added.



Lucky winner

At the end of a successful campaign Al Mulla Used Car purchasers of the Diplomat line-up had an opportunity to win a free vehicle in the draw held on 10th of October. The lucky winner was Turki Al Humaid (coupon No. 104) seen receiving the keys of his free vehicle from Ivan Pacheco, director of Al Mulla Group. Others in the picture are from left Lt. Abdul Aziz Mutawa (Ministry of Interior), Talal (P.R. manager, Al Mulla) and Mohammed Faraj (Ministry of Commerce).

Biggest computer exhibition

GITEX '89 (Gulf Information Technology Exhibition & Conference) Dubai's annual computer exhibition, held under the auspices of HH Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Minister of Finance and Industry, opens tomorrow for the first time, and will run from 16-19 October 1989 at the Dubai World Trade Centre.

With more than 3200 square metres sold, the show being held in Exhibition Halls 2 and 3, is the largest ever in its nine year history, with a total of 125 exhibitors representing over 218 firms.

New to the exhibition this year are 50 firms, including 01 Systems, 3 COM Corporation, AHA General Trading, Abdullah Bin Turkiyah Trading, Al Futaim Computer Software Products, Al Futaim Electronics, CITOH Electronics, Computer Assit, Computer Island, Computer Library, Computer Point, Computer User Middle East, Computerland, Computex, D H Al Zayani Marketing Associates, Electro George Galadari Computer Trading, Global Systems Inc., Gulf Data International, Hobe Electronics GmbH & Co Vertriebs KG, Hong Kong Trade Development Council, INGRES Relational Technology, Immac (UK) Ltd., Intagraph ME Ltd, Kapack Aktiengesellschaft, McGraw Hill Book Co., Metropolitan Ent. (HK), Micro Soft Corporation, Micro Tech Publication, Midwest Data Systems, My Computer, National Photographic, Nokia Data Systems, Oracle Corporation, Pass Computer, Polaroid, Specialised Computer Systems, Systems Unlimited, Tatum Co., Technical Computer Services, The De La Rue Company, United Group International, World of Computers & Technology, Sandra Royan, of Trade Centre Management Company.

De Bono to address meeting

Experts to discuss Gulf information technology

STRATEGIC concepts in information technology will be presented from October 16-18, 1989, at the Gulf Information Technology conference when it opens tomorrow, alongside, (GITEX '89), the annual computer exhibition, being held from Oct 16-19, at the Dubai World Trade Centre.

The theme of the conference is "information technology and its organisation."

Edward De Bono, M.D., Ph.D., the leading international authority on creative thinking and the direct teaching of thinking skills, who originated the concept of lateral thinking, will be the keynote speaker.

A Rhodes scholar at Oxford who has held faculty appointments Cambridge, Oxford, London University and Harvard, Dr De Bono concept of lateral thinking, is now officially recognised in the Oxford English dictionary. He has written 30 books, which have been translated into 20 languages including Swedish, Russian, and Japanese.

In addition to frequent radio and television appearances, De Bono has also made three television series on "Thinking," one of which, a 14 part series produced by BBC, has been shown widely in major US cities.

As the keynote speaker, De Bono will address delegates "Creativity, Thinking and Information." Being held for the fifth year in Dubai, the conference will probably rate the most significant yet, will also feature first hand reports from experts on subjects that touch everyone in information processing, whether DP professionals or end users across the board.

According to conference chairman Reg Watkins, former vice president of ICL, a well known figure in the information processing industry, and a Fellow of the British Computing Society, this year conference would be different from previous years. "There is not single aspect of modern society that does not have some degree dependence on information technology he says." What is more, the dependence is growing at a rate unheard of for any other innovation history. Information technology is part of our lives, and we need know how to cope with it.

Introducing the other speakers Reg Watkins said, "You will be such people as Brian Oakley of the Alvey project fame, current president of the British Computer Society, and chairman of Logi Cambridge, discussing "Software Development and Security," S Monty Finniston, ex chairman of British Steel, addressing "TI Management of Change," Ashok Hedge, director of the UK Strategic Planning Society on "building a quality culture," Cheryl Shearer, senior executive with Digital Equipment Company, on "managing a multi vendor network," Grahame Stehle, senior partner of Keith Londr Associates on "moving from technology to user based systems," Geo Squire senior vice president of Oracle on the "effective use of corporate data," Lyall Davidson a specialist in strategic planning and markets and director of Padder Associates, on "the impact of changing industrial boundaries."

With information technology having an enormous effect on society as a whole, in order to benefit, and not be driven by it, companies must rethink their approach and attitude to training.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAH PORT AS ON 15/10/89				
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.	
2	Zarka	GH + Q	4347815	
3	Hyundai No. 9	Algh Barwell	4842988	
4	Ibn Shalash	KSA	4843150	
8	Shaam	ISA	2441860	
14	Fernanda F	GH + Q	4347815	
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAH PORT				
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.	
15/10	Hual Carmeeta	A.M. Bahar	2459891	
15/10	Norasia Arabia	Algh Barwell	4841873	
15/10	Carmen Carina	M. Bahar	2401900	
15/10	Jolly Rubino	Yaas	4745333	
15/10	Ivan Pervelev	M. Bahar	2401900	
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT				
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.	
02	Hyundai No. 8	Algh Barwell	4842988	
19	Guri Master	ISA	2441860	
VSL AT ANCHORAGE				
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.	
02	Hyundai No. 8	Algh Barwell	4842988	
19	Guri Master	ISA	2441860	
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT				
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.	
10/10	Sally	Steeves	2439973	
16/10	Maydon (2nd trip)	Al Kanaal	2425477	
17/10	Dubai	UASC	4843150	
20/10	Sammal Blonde	Arabian Sea	2421303	
22/10	Doric Armour	Algh Barwell	4842988	

Compiled by: Alghaim Barwell Shipping Co. WLL, Tel: 4842988/4843150 ext: 3628/3646 Fax No: 4845712, TLX 22084 BARWLL KY TLX 30894 SLS KY.

هكذا امت الأصل

Flowers and Butterflies and Burning Candle enchant

Oormila, at 12, is a poet in her own right

Dawn

The faint rays of the sun
Like a maiden's eyelashes
Lift up to the horizon
And a brand new day flashes

Plucking the flower

I feel the scent of man
Approaching in the distance
I feel a strange restlessness
Possessing me to the very root.
The click of the scissor.
I hear like a warning
Unlucky living creature I am
The soil prevents my escape.
I feel man's evil clutches
On my weak stem
Whereupon the blade I feel
Cutting me from this world
And, with my last breath, I say,
"Man cannot enjoy beauty
At a distance,
But enjoys the glory
Of its destruction."

The Cloth Seller

Knocking on every door,
The cloth seller comes shouting loud,
Out come the pretty maidens,
Neatly dressed and proud.
They mix up everything,
And bargain with the poor man,
And in the end he gives,
At any low price he can,
After selecting all they want,
They close their door,
The poor man picks up everything,
That is scattered on the floor.

Plate

Holding your food I have to wait
You don't care even if you are late
Laughing and talking with your playmate
Oh! God, this is my fate!

Half you eat and half you waste
And almost drop me in your haste,
Then Mummy scolds you with all her might,
Very good! it serves you right!

The broom's cry

Whole day I am in the maid's hand,
She hits me on the ground as if playing with a band,
She uses me to kill a rat
And sometimes to chase the neighbour's cat.
I am very tired of being hit,
And in a webby corner I have to sit,
She hits me on the floor and wall,
But never brings me in front of all!
When my straw is loose!
And I am of no use
She throws me into the bin,
My! what a sin!



Oormila Vijaykrishnan

Sonny Abraham
Arab Times staff

For a mere 12-year-old, Oormila Vijaykrishnan exudes amazing confidence. Not surprising, really, when you consider the fact that she is today a minor celebrity in her own right.

This seventh standard student of Carmel School in Kuwait is a veritable child prodigy, writing poetry since the age of seven and well on her way to becoming an important contributor to Indo-Anglian literature.

Last November, she was invited to read her works at the 10th World Congress of Poets in Bangkok, where she received a certificate of appreciation for her contributions, and is now preparing to attend the next one in Cairo in 1990.

At Bangkok, Oormila was the youngest delegate — the next youngest was 27 years old — and stole everyone's hearts. In fact, her presence there inspired a contest for young poets in Thailand and she was asked to present the prize to the winner, an 11-year-old girl.

Oormila has already published two collections of her poems — the first titled "Flowers and Butterflies" in June last year while the second, "Burning Candle," is just out of the printing press. In between there have been awards galore.

Her poems appear regularly in the Poet, an international monthly, and have also been included in a couple of anthologies published by the World Poetry Society.

Right now, Oormila is attempting something even more ambitious. She is converting each of the 700 verses of the Bhagwat Gita, the great Indian epic, into four or eight lines of poetry. She has already completed work on 11 of the epic's 18 chapters. She hopes to publish this work very soon.

Ask Oormila what poetry means to her and she will say it is a medium that can soothe human hearts. "Poetry can influence man and his actions...it can suppress violent behaviour and promote the brotherhood of man." Profound thoughts from a 12-year-old, but that was the substance of her paper on "Poetry as a vision of humanity" presented at the Bangkok congress.

At another level, Oormila writes because it brings her immense satisfaction and she wants to share her feelings with her fellow beings. Her flights into poetry are a record of things and events around her — a kind of childhood diary. The poems are born of an intense perception and fertile imagination, but they also betray her innocence. Her subjects could be anything and everything — from mundane household articles to the spiritual and the heavenly — as would be evident from cursory reading of her works.

This is how she describes poetry in one:

"A mysterious ship of words, That sails,
To a land,
Unheard..."

And here's an appealing verse on night:

"Shadows flit with the day,
Till it is at bay,
There is a silence in the air,
Proclaiming her arrival everywhere."

Elsewhere, this is what she says about childhood:

"While the lace is woven on the loom,
While the cloth is fervently strengthened,
I turn to realise that this finery quickly wears,
Leaving me in youth's bitter years."

As you turn the pages of her two collections, you will find many such gems of fine, polished poetry. But her works are not just patios, you realise, when you come across little poems tinged with subtle humour on subjects like plates, brooms, a Barbie doll, spoons and what have you.

She looks into everything around her — her parents, her little brother, her room, her toys, the clock, the kitchen — and infuses them with not only life but a new meaning.

But what is it that inspired this meek little girl to delve so deep into the realms of poetry? Oormila traces it back to her very early years, back in Kerala, India, where her grandfather spent long hours reading books and poems to her, explaining their meaning to her ever so patiently.

A police officer, who was "very meek and mild," this man is the inspiration for all her writings today. Her grandfather did not live to see Oormila's talent flower. This is the poignant tribute she wrote:

You thought I'd never write
But you weren't at all right
I have written, but only after you died.
But still you are my guide

I could've brightened your mind
If that talent I could find
At that tender age of three,
But I was small, you see?"

Once she started writing, she says, it was her parents who provided her all the encouragement along with the teachers at her school. Her mother, Sobhana Kumari, a science graduate, and her father, K.V. Vijaykrishnan, an engineer in the Kuwait Fire Department, do everything in their power to nurture their daughter's talents in many different spheres.

Words and images come to Oormila effortlessly in a spontaneous flow of powerful feelings as she draws on her limited experience of life so far. Rhymes come to her naturally and you will find in her works all the elements that make good poetry.

But it is not just poetry that Oormila dabbles in. She is taking piano lessons regularly from a tutor and is also attending painting classes now. She likes painting on fabrics and clay modelling. Vegetables carving is another hobby. She draws cartoons like a professional. Says her mother, "She keeps herself occupied all the time."

Amidst all this, Oormila also finds the time and energy to stay at the top of her class in school. "I normally figure in the top three," she says, adding that English and History are her favourite subjects.

She has received several medals and certificates from her school and is a keen participant in all extra-curricular activities. She writes poems specially for various school occasions and is also invited to recite her works at literary and other gatherings in Kuwait.

In keeping with her celebrity status, Oormila today handles media interviews with absolute ease. Stories about her have appeared in the press in Kuwait, India and Thailand. Some time ago, when the Mahatma Gandhi University was inaugurated at Kottayam, Kerala, she was invited to read her works at the inaugural function. Earlier this year, she was interviewed by Kuwait television in its popular Weekend programme.

Oormila pens personal poems for her friends and relatives on occasions like birthdays and weddings. She reads a lot, from Shelley and Shakespeare to contemporary poets. And, interestingly, she keeps careful notes on all the books she has read.

Though she has lived in Kuwait since the age of three (she has written a few poems about the country and life here), Oormila yearns to get back to India, the land of her birth.

India's rich beauty is something she cannot quite forget and she has written some touching, nostalgic poems about her motherland.

But it is in Kuwait that she has found herself and earned name for herself. This is what she wrote when asked her to write a few lines about life in this country.

"A new way of life awaits every man,
His ideas and plans are fulfilled,
Presenting man glory and heights in his life,
And encouraging man in all that he's skilled."

Incredible, did you say, that someone so young should be gifted with such rare talent? But it is true, and she lives right here, in our midst.

Caesar makes a comeback in NY

NEW YORK, Oct. 15.

(Reuters) Sid Caesar, whose weekly comedy shows were among the highlights of US television in the 1950s, is proving to New Yorkers that anybody who can make himself look and sound like a bubble-gum machine is a great comedian.

His summer off-Broadway revue was supposed to run for five weeks. It lasted 12.

Later this month it will open on Broadway as "Sid Caesar and Company: Does anybody know what I am talking about," a tribute to Caesar's ability to mimic any foreign language without actually speaking a word of it.

Caesar, whose career has had rollercoaster highs and lows, is delighted at the upturn in his fortunes at the age of 67.

"You can't ask for anything better. I enjoy performing, and there's something special about being in front of New York audiences," he told Reuters in a recent interview.

Like his summer revue at a Greenwich Village Theatre, the Broadway show will concentrate on landmark comedy sketches from "Your Show of Shows" and "Caesar's Hour," the television series that won him seven Emmy awards between 1950 and 1958.

He revives such beloved characters as the professor in a squashed top hat and rumpled tails who speaks in a mock-German accent as the supposed authority on everything.

He brings back his pantomime of an argument between a husband and wife, and plays the hapless filmgoer caught in the middle of a lovers' quarrel who ends up with his popcorn on the floor and his suit in shreds.

He also includes a monologue examining the world through the eyes of a six-month-old baby, a solo pantomime of a shy boy at his first dance and, of course, the sketch where he turns into a talking penny gum machine.

Caesar owes his career to a saxophone abandoned at the cafeteria run by his father. "My father said 'this is what you'll play because someone left it in the restaurant,'" he recalls.

He began to perform on the saxophone while still a teenager in New York's Catskill mountain summer resorts, the breeding ground for many a comedy career.

Meanwhile as he cleared tables at his father's cafeteria, his musician's ear helped him pick up rhythms from the many languages of the immigrant workers who ate there.

It was the source material for his double-talk mimicry of German, Italian, Japanese and other languages.

"It's a gift," he says. "I didn't practise it or question it. Each language has its own truth, its own song, and if I can hear one for five or ten minutes, I can do it."

He also studied the great comedians.

"The ones who influenced me, my heroes, were Charlie Chaplin, WC Fields, Laurel and Hardy and Buster Keaton," he says.

Caesar's musical training helped him develop the sense of timing essential to comedy.

While serving in the coast guard in World War two, Caesar met Vernon Duke, the popular composer, and started the revue "Tars and Spars," which Duke wrote with lyricist Howard Dietz.

This led to his association with the producer Max Liebman, which in turn led to a Broadway show, a television comedy show in 1949 and then the full-blown success of "Your Show of Shows" in 1950. Caesar was at the top at the age of 28.

The programme, a weekly live 90-minute comedy show, changed America's Saturday night entertainment patterns. Attendance at theatres and nightclubs dropped as people stayed home to watch Caesar. Carl Reiner, Imogene Coca and Howard Morris.

They were supported by young writers whose ranks included Neil Simon, Mel Brooks and Woody Allen.

"Everything happened to fall into place and it almost came too easy," says Caesar. "I got very spoilt and didn't appreciate what I had. But behind the simplicity was an awful lot of work and mental torture."

The strain of putting together and performing live six lengthy comedy sketches each week took its toll.

New Italian style bares a little

Choose your pick, plenty on offer

SEXY or demure. Tailored or languid. Colourful or ornate. The woman who dresses Italian style can be anything she wants in spring-summer 1990.

There is less of a unified message from the new look offered by over 40 top Italian designers, who presented their warm-weather wears this week.

It allows the fashionable woman, as Armani put it, "to choose something which seems to be designed for her alone."

Naturally there are trends.

The new style concentrates on the upper body, with the bare midriff the newest look. Bra tops, bandeaus, and bustiers, plus an accent on see-through blouses, spell bad news for the lingerie industry. In fact the bra as an undergarment virtually disappears.

To boot, it apparently no longer is taboo for models to be well-endowed. Some of the fashion circuits' top models, who only a year ago made a scarecrow look voluptuous, this season seem headed for careers as Marilyn Monroe look-alikes.

Colour is another novelty on the Milan runway. After many a season of drab city smog shades, the designers have burst out in a bright palette of Italian fruit ice-cream tones: raspberry, kiwi, watermelon, mango, apricot, peach, banana, blueberry, and many more. In some collections these shades are muted pastels. Black still plays a big role by night.

Short skirts no longer make news in Italy, where young and old, stout and slim alike show off their legs. So it is no surprise that short skirts continue to dominate the ramp. Next season's mini skirt is not as hip-hugging as the winter version, with a preference for draping and tie skirts such as those worn by South Sea islanders.

There is little for city-dwellers and career girls in the new collections. The emphasis is on holiday attire: shorts, jumpsuits, gaily printed sun dresses, pajama pants and loose shirt jackets.

Milanese designers are on a fringe binge, with long silk threads adorning shawls and scarves, as well as finding there way onto shirts, jackets, and the

hemlines of skirts.

Gold and crystal beading dot all the collections, especially for evening. Simple chiffon gowns and can-can tops are richly embroidered with opulent sequining, all done now in India. Gone are the Italian seamstresses who used to work out of their homes by candlelight to embellish Italian couture.

Ornate jewellery is back for the summer of 1990, with over-sized gold bracelets, necklaces and earrings by day and night.

Face-painting is out next season. A return to the natural look reflects not only in make-up but also in the short boyish hairstyles. Footwear is predominantly casual and flat even for evening.

US buyers were cautious about spending their diminished-value dollars. But, if the Americans are watching their wallets, the Italians are comforted by a Japanese market which almost doubled the number of buyers it sent to Milan this season.

International fame has not changed Monsieur Ferre, as the Milanese creator is called since he became the designated designer for Dior.

He still cuts a modest, bashful figure with his rotund body and chubby bearded face as he comes out on the runway in response to a standing ovation at the end of the collection.

He seems embarrassed by lipstick marks left by adoring models who vie to kiss him on the runway, and inevitably takes out a handkerchief to wipe tears of emotion off his fogged glasses.

Yet this shy retiring man always produces a dynamic collection. His style is sexy, self-confident, unmistakable.

The Ferre silhouette is dominated by broad shoulders and ornate neckline, tapering into a small waist and narrow hips. The designer favours sheer fabrics, tight contours and bold hemlines.

Ferre's spring-summer 1990 collection, presented through the week-long Italian ready-to-wear showings, was no exception.

It was his first own-label show since he shocked the fashion world by accepting the offer from the French house of Dior, and the fashion crowd was curious to see

if he could successfully divide his loyalties between Milan and Paris, traditional fashion rivals.

What they found was better than ever — a Ferre light and airy on the one hand, seductively masculine on the other.

Thus, bare midriffs below see-through chiffon blouses are worn under slick man-tailored suits with large rhinestone and gold buttons. Or a huge silk corsage of flowers and feathers and bejewelled cufflinks turns a man-tailored shirt into a feminine foppery.

Pants are cut no-nonsense straight for day and night, coupled with an oversized white blouse with a spill of panels down the front resembling a huge bouquet of napkins and a straw fedora.

As the day wanes, Ferre's style becomes more lavish and elaborate, culminating in chiffon floral and paisley print gowns richly decorated with shimmering gold and crystal sequins.

Ferre is into heavy gold jewellery, as are many of the designers showing here in Milan. He adorns models with enormous charm bracelets with sea-motif charms, large beaded necklaces and gold chain belts.

Among Ferre innovations were the short-skirted summer wicker work suits carefully woven out of burlap to look like raffia, and a body suit in bands of gray jersey and skin-coloured chiffon which looked like mummy wrappings.

Another big name to show was Mariuccia Mandelli, mastermind behind the Krizia label.

Instead of the usual theatre of her elegant downtown Milan Palazzo, Mandelli chose to show under the stars in a tent in a public park.

Due to protests by Milan's vocal ecologist group, the show was in doubt until the very last minute, when city officials finally gave permission for the tent to be pitched.

The Krizia collection was young and carefree with an accent on the 1940's not only in the styles underlined by the clumpy ankle-strap platform shoes but also in the music that accompanied the show.

To the tune of "In The Mood" Krizia favoured bright colours for the day in short easy shapes and lots of prim navy

blue and white. Neat daytime navy blue suits and dresses with crisp white lapels, alternated with T-shirts adorned with the new Krizia craze, the giraffe. These were worn over cheerleader shorts in gay tropical shades. Two new daytime ideas were Jodhpur sweat pants and patchwork camouflage leather.

At night Krizia indulged in her favourite fabric, accordion-pleated silk for beautiful shawled blouses and pastel-coloured party dresses, short and wafting.

Like many showing this week, Krizia has no trouble baring the flesh, leaving wide open spaces in the midriff or down the back. Bras take on new life as outer-wear, appearing in leather and jersey by day, and sequin and gold by night. Sheer fabrics abound.

Beppe Modenese, organisational mastermind behind the "Moda Milanesa" that swept the fashion world at the beginning of the 1980s, is confident the image projected by Milan will continue to be a guiding light in the 1990s despite recent defections to coveted Paris — Romeo Gigli has joined Valentino in showing his ready-to-wear collection in Paris and Gianfranco Ferre now designs for Dior as well as doing his own label out of Milan.

"We are still the reference point for all ready-to-wear. France, Germany, and even America take their cue from us," said Modenese.

Here are a few highlights from the shows:

Versace — the sexiest, most theatrical look with super-short skirts and multicoloured gold — and crystal-encrusted bustiers.

Ferre — the most confident look with enormous scarf-tie blouses and see-through jumpsuit made of bands of silk jersey and skin-coloured chiffon.

Krizia — the clumpiest shoes, 1940s platform ankle straps.

Armani — the longest, loosest jacket in raw silk.

Fendi — the raunchiest runway music.

Jenny — the only collection to dress the career girl.

Byblos — the easiest collection to sell, full of young and pretty clothes.



FASHION

2000-year-old Egyptian city

An ancient world found

MARINA ALAMEIN, Egypt, Oct. 15. (AP): Construction workers carving out a road for a Mediterranean resort bulldozed their way into an ancient world previously concealed beneath beach sand.

Their discovery was an archaeologist's dream — a city more than 2,000 years old, stretching for more than a mile (1.6 kms) beneath Egypt's northwestern coastline 125 miles (200 kms) west of Alexandria.

"It's unbelievable," said Ali Hassan, who controls Egyptian antiquities organisation operations in the region. "Other countries get excited about finding an ancient house. We have a whole city. It's without equal in all of Egypt."

The bulldozers were stopped a month after the ruins were discovered in 1985. By that time, a road had been sliced through what appears to have been an ancient temple, but much of it remained.

Ruins

A few months later, Egyptian and Polish archaeologists began quietly excavating the ruins. In the three years since then almost every find has been in remarkably good condition.

"What we have in hand is a golden egg, undisturbed, a complete city that changed with time," said Hassan, director-general of Pharaonic monuments. "It's not only a city of the dead, but also a city of the living, side by side. It's something very rare and very important."

The city, born in the second century BC, lasted more than 500 years before it was covered and preserved by blowing sands. As soon as excavations began, measures were taken to protect the site from residential construction, said Sayed Tawfik, chairman of the antiquities organisation.

Situated between the sea and rolling sand dunes, the still-undiscovered city was to have been the site of an apartment complex. A row of ultramodern apartments already stand to one side of it.

Surveys

Only a small area has been excavated, but archaeologists already have discovered well-preserved houses, vast cemeteries with decorated and undecorated tombs, catacombs, a bath, a basilica and many artefacts, imported and local, including statues and frescoes.

Egyptian excavators are now at work. In February they'll be rejoined by 10 Polish archaeologists and restorers to make detailed surveys of the site and its needs.

They already have restored important pieces that had begun to disintegrate after their encounter with the modern world.

Faisal Mohammed Ashmy, the antiquities inspector in charge of the city, recently pointed towards mounds of toppled marble columns. They lay at the crest of a recently made ditch 35 feet (10 metres) wide and 10 feet (three metres) deep — a road.

"Before the bulldozers got here, this was a temple, I think. It's terrible, but we now have to

focus on saving what's left," he said.

"There's so much. All you have to do is to look down, and history says, 'take me.'"

In the search for clues to the city, archaeologists are searching early records that list a number of small cities on Egypt's Mediterranean coast.

"This is a great opportunity for us to see how it was. It's a unique chance to understand the quality of housing during this period," said W.A. Daszewski, head of the Polish archaeological institute in Egypt and an expert in the Greco-Roman period.

"This was a landowners' city... They probably had farms inland, but residents preferred to have their houses along the coast because of the cooler climate."

The gravesites show residents "were in good health," he said. "You have a large number of elderly (people) buried here, which is unusual."

Complex

Excavated houses are large, and a complex water system carried rain from the roof to basement cisterns. Some are elaborately decorated with pillars, niches, statues and delicate frescoes.

"The architectural decoration in the city is first-class and well-preserved," he said. Roman tastes mingle with legacies of the Egyptian Pharaohs.

The tombs fascinate Daszewski. Designs range from simple pits through small step pyramids to magnificent, multi-storied funerary complexes.

The burials date from the second century BC to the end of the third century AD, Daszewski said, adding that he believes the city existed in some form until the early seventh century.

One burial ground inside the city appears to contain only the bones of children, buried inside large pottery vessels.

Name

Daszewski knows of two possible names for the city: Leucaspis — "white shield" — which would refer to a sandpit that protected the harbour, and Antiphra or Antiphra, a city mentioned as late as the fourth century because of a bishop who lived there.

"Both are possibilities, but we have a basilica here, so the city existed during early Christian times," Daszewski said. "I rather think it's Antiphra, but it's possible the city was called one thing, the harbour area another. We don't know."

Whatever the name, ancient city planners knew what they were doing in choosing the city's location, the Polish archaeologist said.

Harbour

"There are two harbours here, and the Mediterranean could be tricky. Captains didn't like to sail at night, so often they preferred to put into port before dark," he said.

"Also, this city lies alongside the ancient caravan and pilgrimage route from north Africa to Makkah. You had the sea on one side, the Qattara depression and its quicksand on the other. You had to pass this way."

Peter Falk gets second-billing at home

Shera is an employable actor, in fact she had worked more



Falk in one of the scenes of Columbo.

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15. (UPI): Peter Falk may be a star to the rest of the world, but at home the superstar is just any other ordinary person to his wife Shera, who works in movies and TV under her maiden name, Shera Danese.

Shera has a wild sense of humour, an independent mind and a penchant for driving her husband crazy, a state he has enjoyed since he picked her up on a Philadelphia street a dozen years ago and fell in love.

At that time, Shera had appeared in only one movie, "Last of the Red Hot Lovers." Quite erroneously, Falk assumed his new wife would forego her fledgling showbiz career and play the full-time role of Beverly Hills housewife.

Wrong. Shera set about establishing her acting career, to her husband's chagrin. But with a characteristic shrug, which he did so well in his "Columbo" TV series, Falk grudgingly accepted another actor in the family.

In the past decade Shera has worked in more projects than has Peter. True, her name doesn't ride above the title as does his, but she doesn't let her husband forget that she, too, is an employable actor.

"I met Peter on the street only because he was late for an appointment," Shera said, remembering. "Had he been on time he would have made a clean getaway."

"We've had an interesting marriage. We split up every couple of years, usually around Halloween. When Peter leaves, he packs his bags and moves into the guest house. When we get back together he rings the doorbell."

"Once he came home unexpectedly from a location and I walked into the kitchen to see this strange man with a mustache and with his hair looking like a fright wig. I screamed and almost gave him a heart attack."

"People ask why I don't use the name Falk professionally. For what? Maybe if his name was Rockefeller. That would be something you would take. Or Shera Trump. Shera Falk? No. Peter didn't want me to work."

I talked to his agent, who sent me on an interview, and I got the first part I tried for on 'The Bob Newhart Show'."

"I told Peter and he died. 'How can you get a job on the first interview?' he said. 'He was flabbergasted, but not pleased.'"

"Men are selfish. In fact he left the agent, and I kept the agent. I'm still with him. Then I read for another show. The producers of 'Columbo' saw me and asked me to replace an actress in one of their episodes. When I told Peter he was dumbstruck."

"(But) what's he gonna say? He couldn't say no. What am I? On a leash or something? But on the set he wouldn't talk to me all day. The second time I did his show I was terrified. I stunk. I was intimidated. We were married then and we knew how I got the part, right?"

"I am very good in the 'Columbo' that goes on the air in November. Maybe he flubbed his lines a few times, but not me. This time he was too embarrassed to make me read for the part. 'I did 'Charlie's Angels,' 'Kojak,' all those shows, usually playing bimbos and hookers."

"I don't look like a hooker," said the one-time contestant in the Miss World Pageant. "But I sound like one (Shera has an exceptionally high-pitched, somewhat nasal voice)."

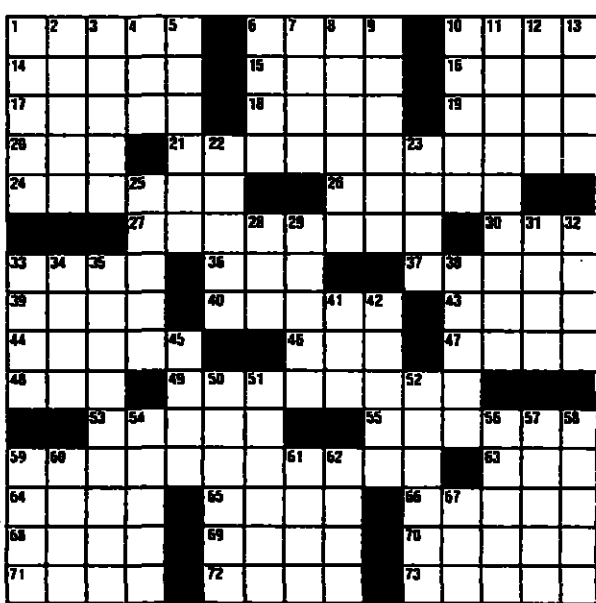
Suzanne Pleshette stopped by the restaurant table while Shera was reminiscing and said, "How's my pal with a voice only my dog can hear?" Shera laughed.

"I worked with Peter for the third time in a 'Columbo' for this season, but we worked together only two days," Shera said. "He's easy to work with now. He doesn't listen to anyone on the set and in the out-takes you can hear me yelling at him: 'What are you doing there? You're supposed to be standing here.'"

"I give him hell right on camera. That's the time to do it. But it doesn't bother Peter."

"I've done a lot of movies like 'Baby Boom' and 'Risky Business.' And I've been cut out of many pictures like 'New York, New York,' 'Stir Crazy,' 'The Other Side of Midnight' and 'Cookie.'"

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Dad's dad
 - Too bad!
 - Giselle
 - compos
 - Adolphe
 - Desirable
 - theater seat
 - location
 - One of the
 - Reindeer
 - people
 - Giri from
 - Guadalajara
 - Relating to
 - morning
 - Canal of song
 - Prefix with
 - science or
 - present
 - Native
 - American
 - Jukebox
 - Florida game
 - fish
 - Mystery needs
 - Fascinate
 - Designate
 - Brood
 - hwy.
 - Buttress
 - Inch
 - "Butterfield 8"
 - author
 - Prompt
 - Submarine
 - equipment
 - Share
 - Las Vegas sign
 - "Hickety,
 - pickety, my
 - black
 - Artistic
 - Bustle body of a
 - sort
 - Breathe
 - Boss of eleven
 - Future rose
 - Part of the
 - forearm
- DOWN**
- "Hurry up"
 - from HQ
 - Cake cover
 - Snacks
 - Slipper
 - Poke
 - Snack-or—
 - Belgian river
 - Attire
 - The full range
 - Lasso
 - Michaelmas
 - daisy
 - 1051, in
 - Pompeii
 - Flag
 - Actor Guinness
 - Escapade
 - Each
 - Sorcerer's
 - stock-in-trade
 - Negative
 - terminal
 - Five-and-ten
 - Part of AD
 - Conduct
 - Beginning of a
 - jazz piece
 - Defeated
 - politicians
 - Michelangelo's
 - is in the Vatican
 - Old English
 - letter: Var.
 - Attain
 - Jason's ship
 - Hammer part
 - Jam
 - A woodwind
 - Small-time
 - Suspicion
 - Strong-scented
 - herb
 - Garret
 - Lease
 - X-rated
 - Saint Paul's
 - birthplace
 - Paid by service
 - Cancel
 - Bear
 - Respiratory
 - organs
 - Skate parts
 - Before the ans.
 - Bator
 - Group of
 - turtles
 - Copier
 - Heel

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SPAD SMARIT AFRO
ALLA KORIEA PIER
NOON KORIEA PLOID
TWICETOLDTALLIES
ASINER EYRIA
SABOT PUNIC
SOL TENACE SOHO
TWOFOOTHEISEISAW
LEAR TOOTLED YIDS
ODDER EILLIS
QUAD LIAPI
DOUBLEENITENDRE
BILLE FAVOR IDIEA
TIVAN IRENE OILS
TAFT ESINEE RINE

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

AVOID THE DANGER

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 10 9 7 4
♥ A Q 10
♦ 9 8 5 2
♣ K 4

WEST
♠ A 3
♥ J 9 8 3 2
♦ J 7 6
♣ Q 10 6

EAST
♠ J 2
♥ 6 5
♦ Q 10 4
♣ A J 9 8 5 3

SOUTH
♠ K Q 8 6 5
♥ K 7 4
♦ A K 3
♣ 7 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠

Getting a lucky break is one thing. Cashing in on it is another. We like this hand played by British internationalist Tony Forrester at a tournament in Treviso, Italy.

Once North announced a spade fit, South's hand revalued to about 17 points for suit play. That was enough to accept North's invitation and go on to game.

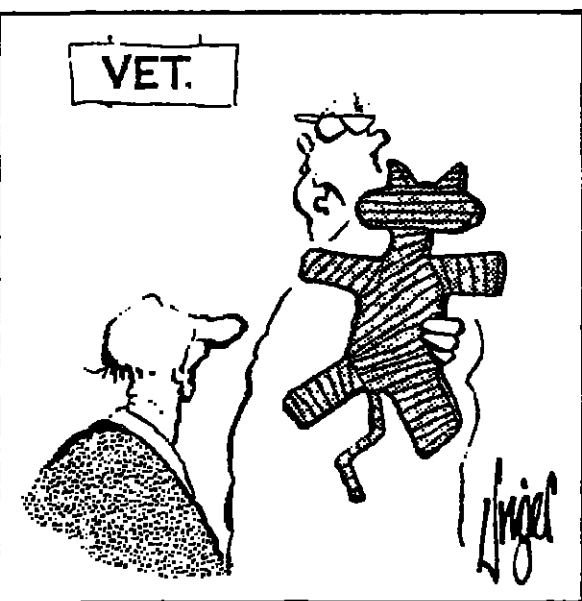
Obviously, as the cards lie a club lead would have defeated the hand.

The defenders have three fast tricks in the black suits, and there is no way declarer can avoid losing a diamond as well. After a spade lead and continuation, however, declarer maneuvered skillfully to bring home his game.

South could not afford to have West regain the lead, because a club shift would have been fatal. So declarer won the second trump in hand, crossed to the ace of hearts and led a diamond. When East followed low, declarer won the king, then cashed the king and queen of hearts and led another diamond. East defended well by inserting the queen, but it was to no avail on this distribution.

The queen of diamonds was allowed to win the trick, and the best East could do was to exit with a diamond. When that suit divided evenly, declarer was able to get to the table with a trump and discard a club on the long diamond.

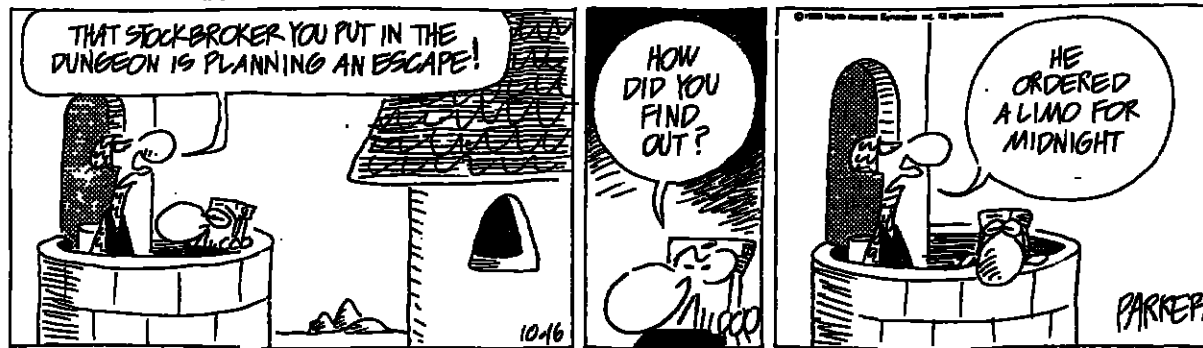
Note the care with which declarer played the hand. Cashing the hearts removed all of East's exit cards. As long as East held the queen of diamonds exactly twice, or failed to shoot in with milday on the first round with a doubler, there was no way that defender could escape being employed.



"I've done the best I can."

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

- Aries (March 20 - April 18)**
If you try a little harder to learn you will do so. Do not let others take the initiative away from you. Have a little more faith in yourself. Be respectful.
- Cancer (June 21 - July 21)**
Make sure you get enough rest but do not be lethargic about it. And make equally sure you get enough exercise. Do not try to use force. Be considerate.
- Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)**
Now is the time to do something about your weight, and you can still do so by moderating your eating habits. Not everything will be to your liking, but there is not a great deal you can do about it at present. Make sure you do not exceed any limits. Be sincere.
- Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19)**
Better a little more slowly and surely than fast and having to go back to correct things. Something you had dreaded might not now happen. You should not allow work to destroy your private life. Be tolerant.
- Taurus (April 19 - May 19)**
Do not expect others to be at your bid and call. You should not do anything rash or precipitate. You will tend to skip from one subject to another and should do your best to concentrate. Be moderate.
- Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)**
You will have to have a little more patience. Do not neglect your cultural interest, but do not allow them to come before all else. A few changes will have to be made. Be firm.
- Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)**
You should keep your mind on what needs to be done instead of allowing it to wander. Make sure your seating is comfortable. Take just a little more exercise. Be sincere.
- Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)**
Instead of trying to rush things just adopt a steady rhythm of work you can maintain. Let common sense be your guide. Show your children a good example. Be respectful.
- Gemini (May 20 - June 20)**
Do not promise what you would find hard to deliver. Try not to spend too long at a time peering at a television screen or computer monitor. You will have some luck but not in the way you had hoped or expected. Be thankful.
- Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)**
You should show just a little more goodwill towards others. Do try to forgive and forget instead of continuing to harbour a grievance. Take good care of your health. Be less obstinate.
- Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**
You will have something to be really pleased about. Your lucky numbers are 14 and 37. Avoid taking on more commitments than you can cope with. Do all you can to fire your enthusiasm. Be cordial.
- Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)**
Make sure you follow the instructions to the letter when using a new device. Do all you can to avoid getting into an argument. And be careful you do not allow confusion to prevail. Be fair.

SPORTS

Stewart helps Athletics overpower Giants in opener

OAKLAND, Calif., Oct. 15, (Reuters): Dave Stewart, strengthened by six days of rest, overpowered the San Francisco Giants yesterday as the Oakland Athletics took a 5-0 victory in the opening game of the World Series.

Stewart, relying on a sizzling fastball, shut out the Giants on five hits and did not allow a base runner as far as third until the ninth inning.

The A's scored early and often to give Stewart a cushion, then left the rest to the righthander.

"He's risen to the occasion so many times," Oakland manager Tony La Russa said. "He's the best in this (American) League to give you a chance to win, to find some way, somehow."

Team-mate Dave Parker, who smacked one of two Oakland home runs, said

Stewart was "phenomenal."

Stewart, winner of 20 games in each of the last three seasons, threw a demanding 139 pitches to complete the game as he stranded runners on second and third in the ninth.

"The six days of rest surely helped me out there in maintaining my fastball," said Stewart. "I don't feel I worked 139 pitches worth but I had to labour some."

They're a good hitting ball club."

The extended rest was the result of an early finish to both League championship series. The A's and Giants both needed just five games to beat the Toronto Blue Jays and Chicago Cubs respectively.

Game two of the series, the first between teams of the same metropolitan area in 33 years, was to be played today before another full house of some 50,000 at Oak-

land Coliseum.

Oakland jumped into the lead with three runs in the second inning, helped by an error on a play at the plate.

Lead-off home runs by Parker and the usually light-hitting Walt Weiss in the next two innings bolstered the lead.

Giants manager Roger Craig said Stewart was the difference.

"He had a good, live fastball the whole

game. We thought he might tire but he didn't. He pitched outstanding ball," Craig said.

In the third, one-out singles by Terry Steinbach and Tony Phillips after a lead-off walk to Dave Henderson brought in the game's first run against losing pitcher Scott Garretts.

With runners on first and third, Weiss

Clark, whose throw home looked sure to get the second out. But Steinbach slid hard and kicked the ball out of catcher Terry Kennedy's glove for an unearned run.

Rickey Henderson then stroked a single to right to score Phillips.

The A's collected 11 hits off four Giants pitchers with Mark McGwire leading the way with three singles.

Dane wins Beijing marathon

BEIJING, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Braving a fierce wind, Peter Dane of Denmark won the Beijing international marathon today in a personal best time of two hours, 12 minutes, 46 seconds.

Dane crossed the line at the workers stadium watched by about 15,000 people, including a group of 50 riot police with batons and machineguns, some of whom waved small flags.

Second was Negash Dube of Ethiopia in 2:13:10 and third was Choe Il Sop of North Korea in 2:14:39.

"I feel fine and delighted to have beaten my own best by two minutes," Dane told reporters. His previous best was 2:14:25.

The race was well organised and the temperature fine, except for the strong wind," he said.

The women's race was won by Mun Gyong Ae of North Korea in 2:27:15, followed by her compatriot Chon Gum Suck in 2:30:31 and Xue Lihuan of China in 2:31:31. The official programme showed entries, including 41 foreigners, from 19 countries.

Spectators in the stadium watched a soccer match between a provincial and a Chinese Army team while the runners completed the course.

With Peking approaching its sixth month under martial law, there was a strong security presence along the route, which included the Avenue of Eternal Peace, scene of killings on June 4 when the army cracked down on student-led pro-democracy demonstrations.

The crowds along the route and in the stadium were much smaller than in previous years.

Belcastro retains Euro-title

BATTIPAGLIA, Italy, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Italy's Vincenzo Belcastro retained his European bantamweight title yesterday, beating compatriot Luigi Campaturo on points despite an injury to his right hand.

Campaturo, sporting gold-sequestered shorts and matching boots, did all he could to live up to his nickname "Kid Dynamite," which he earned in the United States where he lives.

Older and wiser, Belcastro consistently shook off Campaturo's flailing attacks. In 12 rounds Campaturo, 23, landed only a handful of solid punches on target.

Belcastro, 28, in his fifth defence of the title he won in April 1988, by contrast made sure most of his punches hit home.

The verdict went 119-112, 120-113, 118-113 in favour of Belcastro.

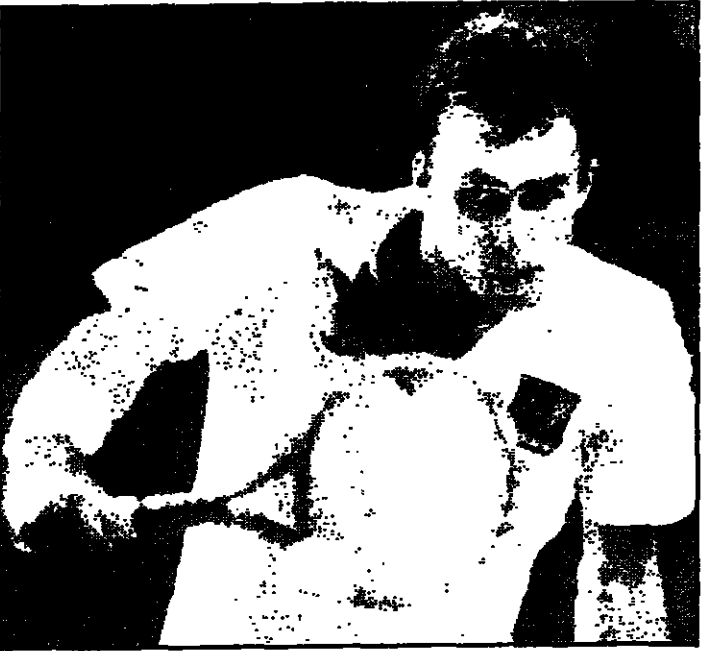
Belcastro, from the Calabrian village of Fustalido, said after the match he had been hampered throughout the fight by an injury to his right hand.

"It really bothered me. I was forced to fight him off and attack just with my left hand."

Lendl routs Wahlgren

World No. 1 wins Australian title

SYDNEY, Oct. 15, (Reuters): World number one Ivan Lendl brought Sweden's Lars Wahlgren back to earth with a crash today, crushing the qualifier 6-2 6-2 6-1 to cruise to his third Australian indoor tennis title.



Lendl plays a backstroke shot. (Reuters wirephoto)

Wahlgren, who had never before been past the second round of a Grand Prix tournament, battled bravely but never came close to matching the power and all-round class of his Czechoslovak opponent.

Lendl's victory, his ninth of a year which began with the Australian Open title in January, secures him a winner's cheque of \$75,000 and another \$880,000 for finishing top of the Grand Prix bonus points pool.

"I have not won a tournament this easily for quite a while. I can now understand how mentally and physically exhausted Steffi Graf must feel after each tournament," Lendl said ironically of the number one women's player in the world.

Wahlgren was realistic in defeat which ended a dream week. The 23-year-old won \$37,500, almost half his previous career earnings, and should see his ranking climb from 222 to around 108.

"I have been in heaven sometimes this week. It's been the best week of my life," he said. "Your goal when you're a child is one day to play the number one in the world. Today was the biggest day of all."

Lendl complimented Wahlgren on his performance. "I did not even know who he was until yesterday. He's quite good all round but he lacks a big weapon. He does hurt players enough."

Lendl, favourite for the title

since the late withdrawal of West Germany's Boris Becker, benefited from the dismissal of six of the eight seeds before he had even opened his singles campaign. He lost only 19 games in his five matches.

Many thought Lendl would at least equal the most comprehensive victory in a final here — the loss of four games by US player Jimmy Connors in defeating Australian Geoff Masters in 1978 — but Wahlgren did not go down without a fight.

"It was just like I thought — I tried to play but he was too strong. It's not that I was bad, he was just too fast," Wahlgren said.

Lendl broke the Swede's service in the opening game on the match and did just enough to win the set 6-2 in 27 minutes before losing his temper with the "electric eye" machine in the first game of the second set.

On break point with Wahlgren serving, the machine failed to signal out a serve by the Swede much to Lendl's annoyance.

At the end of the game, which Lendl lost, the Czechoslovak unplugged the machine and told umpire Bruno Rebeuh he would not pay attention to it anymore.

Magers outlasts Zvereva

MOSCOW, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Third-seed Gretchen Magers of the United States overcame the Soviet number one Natalya Zvereva 6-3 6-4 in today's Moscow women's tennis tournament final, a match marred by double-faults and unforced errors on both sides.

Beset with service problems from the start, Magers kept her cool and wore down her opponent, the second seed and favourite following top seed Pam Shriver's second round defeat, consistently getting the better of long baseline exchanges.

"We were playing more on emotions than tennis strokes," Magers conceded after the match. "I was very nervous, but I thought I had the chance to win by doing the right thing at the right time."

Zvereva had the best of the opening games, breaking Magers in the third to lead 2-1. But the American broke back in the sixth game and served to love in the seventh to lead 4-3.

Two perfectly-judged drop-volleys and a crucial double fault by Zvereva gave Magers the chance to

serve for the first set. She hung on through four deuces to take it, apparently oblivious to the crowds whistles over some of the line calls.

In the second set, neither player seemed willing to take the initiative and it was only after five breaks of serve that Magers finally held her serve to take a 4-2 lead.

Zvereva broke back in the eighth to make it 4-4, but lost the next game through a series of unforced errors. After a moment of confusion when the crowd drowned out a line-call, Magers was home and dry.

A disappointed Zvereva said she had played far below her best. "It wasn't so much nervousness as thinking too much about how I was going to win — it just didn't work out at the most important points."

"Yesterday I was playing badly too (in the semifinal against fellow-Soviet Natalya Medvedeva). But that's the difference in level between Medvedeva and Magers. Yesterday I won and today I lost."

Mecir sails past Chang for crown

HONG KONG, Oct. 15, (UPI): Defending champion Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia drew from an arsenal of power and finesse to defeat Chinese-American Michael Chang 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-2 today in the final of the \$200,000 Marlboro tennis championships.

The Olympic gold medalist, who was unseeded in the tournament, controlled the pace of the match from the outset, using a combination of scathing baseline drives and subtle drops to keep the second-seeded Chang off balance.

Chang's steady power drives were no match for the Czechoslovak's two-handed backhand and deceptive shots.

"I could have played my best tennis today and Miloslav still would have won," Chang said.

Mecir took home the \$60,000 championship purse, while Chang, ranked number six in the world, settled for the \$30,000 second-place prize.

American Richey Reneberg played a solid three sets to overpowered top-seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden 7-6, (7-5), 6-4, to earn third place in the tournament.

Shriver gets superstar sendoff

MOSCOW, Oct. 15, (AP): There were trophies, flowers, hugs and smiles for Pam Shriver — and she didn't even reach the third round.

Shriver was given the type of send-off usually reserved for Grand Slam champions as she bade farewell to Moscow yesterday.

"I can't imagine what they would have given me if I'd won the tournament," the American said. "I probably wouldn't have been able to fit it all on the plane."

Shriver, the top seed at the first professional tennis event to be staged in the Soviet Union, was eliminated in the second round of the \$100,000 Virginia Slims tournament on Thursday.

But it was a farewell she said she would never forget.

"It was certainly the most memorable second-round loss of my life," Shriver said. "It's been a unique week. When I look back, this will be one of the memorable weeks of my career."

Although she is only ranked 11th in the world and hasn't won a singles event all year, Shriver was treated like a superstar throughout her first visit to Moscow.

Organisers of the event presented her with two huge trophies Saturday, one a porcelain jar from Soviet Georgia, the other a hand-painted pottery tea pot worth an estimated \$3,600 and sculptured in the village of Gzhel, 100 miles (161 kilometres) outside Moscow.

"You have been chosen as the most popular and charming player" of the tournament, Shriver was told before receiving the two trophies and a bunch of pink and white flowers.

In response, Shriver told the crowd of 8,000 she was sorry she had not played her best, and that she would try to come back next year "and bring some of the other top players with me."

As she left the cavernous Olympic stadium, Shriver was mobbed by

autograph-hunters, who pressed so hard against the side of the court that a protective barrier almost collapsed.

"I'm really not used to this," Shriver said. "You don't get this treatment anywhere after losing in the second round."

After her elimination by France's Julie Halard, Shriver decided to stay in Moscow to do some sight-seeing despite a draining trip from the Federation Cup in Tokyo in order to get here on time.

She visited the Kremlin, Red Square, the Olympic facilities used for the 1980 Games and the Moscow Circus.

As she ended her brief association with the Soviet public, Shriver said the Women's International Tennis Association should consider giving the tournament higher status.

"This has got to be a primary event. Until it is, not many of the top players will come. But it is an obvious attraction. Moscow deserves a big-name tournament," Shriver said.

Speelman beats Timman to draw level

LONDON, Oct. 15, (AP): Jon Speelman of England scored a crushing 30-move victory with the black pieces over Jan Timman of the Netherlands in the seventh round of their World Chess Championship semifinal yesterday to tie the score at 3.5-3.5 with one game remaining.

In the other semifinal, former world champion Anatoly Karpov held on to draw his sixth game with fellow Soviet Artur Yusupov in 46 moves to keep the score level at 3-3.

Speelman's dramatic fight back follows poor play in his first six games and six at a time when observers were beginning to write off his chances in the eight-game contest.

"Jon played just like his old self," said an ecstatic Jonathan Tisdall, an international master who is Speelman's chief second. "As soon as he had a chance he played sharply and very aggressively."

Despite playing with the advantage of the white pieces, Karpov, who was world champion from 1975 until 1985, drifted into an unfavourable endgame where experts said Yusupov missed two chances to win his second



Anatoly Karpov

game in a row and go ahead in the contest.

"I've never seen Karpov play so badly," commented British grandmaster Tony Miles.

The winner of the candidates' cycle will challenge world champion Garry Kasparov for his title in a 24-game duel beginning October 1990. The winning finalists will face off in the candidates' final next March.

In either contest ends in a 4-4 tie, a two game "mini match" will

be played, followed if necessary by sudden death tiebreakers played at increasingly high speeds.

A win scores one point and a draw a half.

Speelman shocked observers on the third move when he played an old defence against Timman's Ruy Lopez opening rarely seen in top-flight chess for the last 60 years.

Surprised by the unusual idea, Timman sank deep into thought, but a faulty 16th move let Speelman seize the initiative.

Timman used up more and more time and left himself with only 25 minutes thinking time for 20 moves.

As Speelman piled on the pressure, Timman cracked. His 27th move led to a sequence of moves where Speelman won a bishop.

When Timman resigned, the crowd in the Sadler's Wells Ballet Theatre rose for a second ovation, but with the two Soviets still locked in battle, Speelman gestured to the crowd to be quiet.

After Speelman left the stage, Timman remained in his seat for five minutes and watched the Karpov-Yusupov game on the electronic demonstration boards

for five minutes.

Asked about his chances to win the contest, Speelman said "better than this morning."

From a queen's gambit, Yusupov produced a new idea on the 17th move and gradually outplayed Karpov by combining threats against his king and in the centre.

By the 30th move, the protagonists had exchanged down to an endgame with rooks and pawns, where Yusupov stood a pawn ahead.

Soviet international master Mark Dvoretsky, Yusupov's chief second, told reporters Yusupov missed two ways to win on moves 37 and 38.

When Yusupov missed his chances, Karpov initiated a series of pawn exchanges that led to an easily drawn position.

The eighth game with Speelman playing white against Timman is scheduled for tomorrow, though Timman has the option to take a timeout and postpone the game until Tuesday.

With their timeouts exhausted, Yusupov will play white against Karpov in their seventh game tomorrow with the eighth game on Tuesday.



Rehearsals for the opening ceremonies being held at the Kazma stadium.

Sheikh Fahd praises students

THE deputy chairman of the Organising Committee of the Peace and Friendship Games Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad yesterday praised the Ministry of Education and the students currently training for the inauguration ceremony.

Sheikh Fahd visited the students yesterday at the Kazma stadium where they are training. Sheikh Fahd described the students as "the title of the Games." Sheikh Fahd watched a part of the rehearsals, particularly the displays. He was accompanied by a number of organising committee officials.

Sheikh Fahd also held a meeting yesterday with the Games Television Committee. He discussed with them the TV telecasts of the Games events particularly the opening and closing sessions. It was decided in the meeting to carry out a number of rehearsals on live TV coverage before the actual start. Sheikh Fahd also visited the Bedouin corner in Sulaibkhat which is being held within the cultural activities of the Games. It contains a number of articles reflecting Arab heritage like camels, falcons, Arab horses and other bedouin articles. The corner will receive visitors from the end of this week till the end of the Games.

A shooting championship will be held at the Hunting and Equestrian club on Thursday and Friday as part of celebrations of the Peace and Friendship Games. The head of the Kuwaiti Shooting Committee Sheikh Salman Al Homoud Al Sabah said that the committee will hold a meeting this evening to set the conditions for the championship.

Director of operations at the Communications Ministry, Khaled Al Ashour discussed yesterday with the head of the press centre, Faisal Al Quesne the operation of the telecommunication equipments at the centre. The ministry will supply the centre with employees to operate the various equipments.

The Kuwaiti Handball Federation will organise a sports book fair on Nov 2 at the Al Arabi club on the occasion of the Games. The vice-president of the federation, Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahd said that the fair will contain books, magazines, cassettes and video cassettes of matches and others. The public relations committee of the Games will today hold a seminar for the volunteers at the organising committee headquarters in Hawalli. Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad will address the volunteers.



Mishal Al Jarallah (left), Managing Editor of the Arab Times, shakes hands with Sheikh Fahd while Sulaiman Al Jarallah, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Al Seyassah (centre) looks on. Sheikh Fahd visited the Arab Times and Al Seyassah Saturday evening.



Sheikh Fahd (centre) at the rehearsals.

Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahd said that the fair will contain books, magazines, cassettes and video cassettes of matches and others.

The public relations committee of the Games will today hold a seminar for the volunteers at the organising committee headquarters in Hawalli. Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad will address the volunteers.

Director of order and fields for the football competition of the Games, Abdul Rahman Al Baker

said yesterday that 16 referees will officiate the soccer matches of the Games. Eight teams, including Kuwait, are taking part. Al Baker said that seven stadiums have been selected for the training of the teams. All facilities have been provided and a special committee is preparing the stadiums. About four will be sent by the Fifa, seven will accompany the participating teams and five will be from Kuwait.

Barcelona, Real score big victories

MADRID, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Real Madrid swept aside Malaga to register a resounding 4-0 home victory yesterday and give their confidence a much-needed boost before Wednesday's European Cup tie against AC Milan.

After last weekend's wounding defeat away to arch-rivals Barcelona and the loss of striker Emilio Butragueno due to injury, the defending League champions sorely needed a win.

Two goals from striker Sebastian Losada and one each from Alfredo Ruggeri and Adolfo Aldana duly ensured victory before Real, saving their energy for Wednesday, relaxed in the last half hour.

Expected Real's British coach John Toshack said before the game he was looking for a win "to take away the bad taste left in our mouths" by the defeat in Barcelona.

Meanwhile, Barcelona enjoyed 90 minutes of shooting practice in a 7-1 home win against recently-promoted Rayo Vallecano, who are widely expected to return to the Second Division next season.

The Catalan club's morale was already improving after beating Real Madrid, but the result was a further relief for coach Johan Cruyff's team after their disastrous start to the season.

Barcelona face Belgium's Anderlecht in Brussels on Wednesday in a Cup Winners' Cup second round first leg tie.



Women's rugby

Suzanne Jaanzen (centre) from Sweden and Suzanne Kaiser (left) fight for the ball during Saturday's first international women's rugby match in West Berlin. (Reuters wirephoto)

SPORTS

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Cougars surprised by Texas

NEW YORK, Oct. 15, (AP)—Texas A-and-M, using only one lineman in a daring defensive experiment, stopped Houston's explosive Andre Ware and won its 18th straight Southwest Conference home game with a 17-13 upset yesterday of the eighth-ranked Cougars.

Texas A-and-M used five defensive backs, five linebackers and one nose guard in a defense designed to stop Ware, a quarterback who led the nation in total offense with an average of 439.5 yards per game.

In other games involving ranked teams, it was No. 1 Notre Dame 41, No. 17 Air Force 27; No. 2 Miami 48, San Jose State 16; No. 3 Colorado 52, Iowa State 17; No. 4 Nebraska 50, Missouri 7; No. 5 Michigan 10, No. 21 Michigan State 7; No. 7 Arkansas 45, Texas Tech 13; No. 9 Pittsburgh 31, Navy 14; No. 10 Southern Cal 31, California 15.

Also: No. 11 Alabama 24, Southwest Louisiana 17; No. 12 Auburn 10, Louisiana State 6; Georgia Tech 30, No. 14 Clemson 14; Texas 28, No. 15 Oklahoma 14; No. 16 Illinois 14, Purdue 2; No. 19 Florida State 41, Virginia Tech 7; Arizona 42, No. 23 UCLA 7; No. 23 Penn State 34, Syracuse 12; No. 25 Brigham Young 45, Colorado State 16, and No. 25 Florida 34, Vanderbilt 11.

No. 1 Notre Dame 41, No. 17 Air Force 27.
Raghib "Rocket" Ismail scored on a 56-yard punt return and a 24-yard reverse, and Notre Dame shut down Air Force's powerful running attack.

No. 2 Miami 48, San Jose St 16.
Freshman Gino Torretta, making his second start for the injured Craig Erickson, threw for 468 yards, breaking Bernie Kosar's one-game Miami record.

No. 3 Colorado 52, Iowa St 17.
Darian Hagan threw for two touchdowns and ran for two without playing a single down in the second half, and Colorado broke two school records.

No. 4 Nebraska 50, Missouri 7.
Quarterback Gerry Gidowski ran for two touchdowns, and Nebraska scored eight points off Missouri's first two punts, sparking the Cornhuskers to their most lopsided victory in Columbia, Missouri, in 101 years.

No. 5 Michigan 10, No. 21 Michigan St 7.
Michigan's defense twice held off fourth-quarter scoring threats. Leroy Hoard scored on a 1-yard run, and J.D. Carlson kicked a 35-yard field goal, all in the first half, for Michigan.

No. 7 Arkansas 45, Texas Tech 13.
Quarterback Quinn Grovey rushed for 105 yards, including a 42-yard touchdown, and the seventh-ranked Razorbacks spoiled the Red Raiders' homecoming.

No. 9 Pittsburgh 31, Navy 14.
Alex van Pelt threw two touchdown passes, including a 19-yarder to Ricky Turner that started a run of 24 straight points as Pitt trashed a 7-0 Navy lead.

No. 10 Southern Cal 31, California 15.
Leroy Holt and Ricky Ervins rushed for more than 100 yards apiece as Southern Cal rolled to its 16th consecutive Pacific-10 victory.

No. 11 Alabama 24, SW Louisiana 17.
John Mangum's 14th career interception ignited Alabama to 17 fourth-quarter points.

No. 12 Auburn 10, LSU 6.
Shyne Wadden's 33-yard punt return set up a 1-yard touchdown run by Stacy Danley with 6:07 to play, lifting Auburn over LSU in the SEC.

Georgia Tech 30, No. 14 Clemson 14.

Dalglish's gamble pays off

Arsenal move up a gear

LONDON, Oct. 15, (Reuters)—Arsenal have sounded a warning to League leaders Liverpool that they will fight all the way to keep the English First Division soccer title at Highbury.

The champions scored an emphatic 4-0 victory over Manchester City yesterday to stay within a point of Liverpool, 2-1 winners of a tough encounter at Wimbledon.

Manager George Graham said: "We still haven't hit our peak...we've got some way to go yet, but that's a nice sign. It means we've got a couple of gears to go through."

Graham appears to have an enviable selection problem of having to choose from among a number of in-form players in a talented young squad.

Perry Groves, getting only his

second full game of the season after starting most matches on the substitutes' bench, ran in two goals.

"He looked very, very hungry. He was getting an opportunity and he looked as if he wanted to grab it with both hands," Graham said.

England midfielder Paul Davis has almost recovered from injury, Paul Merson came off the bench yesterday to join in the scoring and England hopeful Michael Thomas netted his fourth goal in two matches.

The midfield is the strongest part of the squad at the moment. With Michael Thomas playing tremendously in the first team...we are very well off in this department," Graham said.

The Arsenal manager praised the club's youth policy which produced such stars as Thomas and 22-year-old captain Tony Adams, England's central defender.

"People say we are tight when we don't go out and sign £2 million (\$3.1 million) players, but why should I when I have players I think are worth two million already here?"

"We have invested a lot of money in our youth policy and I think it is probably now the best in the country."

The poorer fortunes of other giants like London arch-rivals Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester United, who have both spent millions of pounds to build sides with championship poten-

tial, would seem to bear Graham out.

Spurs did get a morale boosting 3-1 win at Charlton to move up into a mid-table position.

But United were held 0-0 at home by bottom club Sheffield Wednesday, who might have won but for poor finishing and are just two points behind the big-spending Manchester Club.

The big problem is that we have a lot of new players and they are taking time to settle together," United manager Alex Ferguson said.

A gamble by Liverpool's Kenny Dalglish, whose side has been hit by injury problems, paid off when he decided to field an only half-fit John Barnes.

The England forward, in a less customary role, successfully led the attack in the absence of Ian Rush and laid on goals for Peter Beardsley and Ronnie Whelan.

"I took a chance of Barnes. He wasn't passed fit until lunchtime, but it came off," Dalglish said.

In Dalglish's native Scotland, goals were the order of the day with 22 in five Premier Division matches.

But it was an East European, Hungarian Istvan Kosma, who grabbed top scoring honours with a quickfire hat-trick early in the second half which saw Dunfermline to a 5-1 thrashing of St Mirren.

Celtic, 3-1 winners at Dundee, are alone at the top with 12 points after Aberdeen fell 3-1 at home to Hearts and Motherwell lost 3-2 at Hibernian.



Liverpool's Glenn Hysen (left) and Wimbledon's John Fashanu fight to head the ball. (Reuters wirephoto)

Late Kovacs goal checks Bordeaux

PARIS, Oct. 15, (Reuters)—A late goal from Auxerre's Hungarian striker Kalman Kovacs cost Bordeaux a point and the chance to extend their lead in the French Soccer League to three points yesterday.

A dominant Bordeaux led in Auxerre through a superb goal from West German striker Klaus Allofs, his eighth of the season, in the 63rd minute, his great shot cannoning in off a post.

With Marseille surprisingly held 1-1 at home by struggling Cannes, Bordeaux looked well set to increase their advantage from two to three points until Kovacs struck in the last minute of the match.

He took a pass from Belgian midfielder Enzo Scifo, playing against the club he left just two months ago after an unhappy spell, before beating Cameroon keeper Joseph Antoine Bell.

Marseille, who had not dropped a point this season at their Stade Velodrome, were up against a side who had failed to win a single point away.

The match seemed to be heading in the predicted direction when Uruguayan striker Enzo Francescoli gained the reward for Marseille's sustained pressure with a goal two minutes before the interval.

But a breakaway goal by Jean-Luc Sassi in the 62nd

minute jolted last year's double winners who failed to convert their territorial advantage into goals, a disturbing sign before their European Cup second round match with Aek Athens in the same stadium on Wednesday.

On a bad night for French clubs playing in European competition, Sochaux, who meet Fiorentina of Italy in the UEFA Cup, lost third place when they fell 2-0 in Metz to goals from Dragoslav Brnovic and Carmelo Micciche.

Toulouse moved above them to third on 18 points, one behind Marseille and three behind Bordeaux, with a 2-1 victory over Caen thanks to first half goals from Jean-Philippe Delpech and Eric Assadounan.

Results			
Marseille	1	Caen	1
Nantes	1	Brest	0
Auxerre	1	Bordeaux	1
Toulouse	2	Caen	1
Mulhouse	1	PSG	0
Nice	1	St Etienne	3
Metz	2	Sochaux	0
Montpellier	2	Toulon	0
Racing Paris	2	Lille	0
Played on Friday.			
Lyon	0	Monaco	2

US embargo presents problems for Cubans

HAVANA, Oct. 15, (Reuters)—Officials of the Panamerican Games scheduled for Havana in 1991 said yesterday they might have problems in testing athletes for drugs because of US economic embargo on Cuba covers the testing equipment.

Roger Jackson, president of the technical committee of the Panamerican Sports Organisation, said Washington will not allow dope testing equipment, made exclusively in the United States, to be sent to Cuba.

Jackson attended a two-day general assembly of the Panamerican Sports Organisation which ended on Friday.

Cuban President Fidel Castro, talking to delegates, strongly criticised Washington for mixing politics and sports, according to a Cuban official.

The US Trading with Enemy Act, in effect for a quarter of a century, forbids the shipping of US-made products to Cuba.

Jackson told reporters that the US refusal to allow an anti-doping laboratory to be sent to Cuba is a "very serious problem." He said it would require at least a year to train people to run the sophisticated laboratory.

Jackson pointed out that it took two years to mount and put into operation the anti-doping laboratory that was used during the Winter Olympics in Calgary, Canada.

He said that the US government has also blocked the shipment of bowling alleys and equipment.

It had been decided to include bowling in the 1991 Panam Games, he said, "but if the problem is not solved by November 15, it will be necessary to exclude it."

Monday Darts League

Baggs overwhelm TCF

BAGGS the 1988-89 Monday League winners began the defence of their title in impressive style recording a 6-0 win over energetic TCF.

Georgio de Georgio both hitting the 140 mark and Monica of Nightflights H.S. 132. Highlight of the match came when Mohai Al Moutin lost his 100 per cent record of last season by winning.

Ladies team Nightflights overcame what seem to be mounting difficulties to record a well deserved draw against ladies TCF team.

Campanologists dropped their first danger of the season by being soundly beaten by Monroes 5-1. In another form reversal Eric Christiansen lost his 100 per cent record despite his 4 H.S. to an on form John Watson who joined the 140 Club in the process.

Barndoor Lewis and Torso Keith providing the longest game of the match. Ladies team Appalers managed to salvage something from the evening by drawing with

Mariño's in a match that held all suspended.

Ragamuffins recovering from their early setback staggered to a narrow victory 4-2 over Brahms and Liszt despite a "concerted" effort by the opposition, high scores going to Brian Pond 4.

John Gowland 3 and unlucky not to win Val Pond with 2.

Tyne Tees PP failed to pull out of the fire against Exiles in a 3-3 result, Alan Dickenson and Andy Willson both hitting 3 high scores each. With no ladies opposition the Teasers were not allowed out to play.

Star of the year now in despondency after being beaten 5-1 by Cottier Hoose were extremely grateful that their ladies drew 2-2.

Mondays Darts League full results were as follows with ladies scores in brackets:

Camps	(2)	1	Monroes	(2)	5
Exiles	(2)	3	Tyne T. PP	(2)	3
TCF	(2)	0	Baggs	(2)	6
Str of Teas	(2)	1	Cottier H	(2)	5
Brahms L	(2)	2	Ragamuff	(2)	4

Evergreen blast Rangers

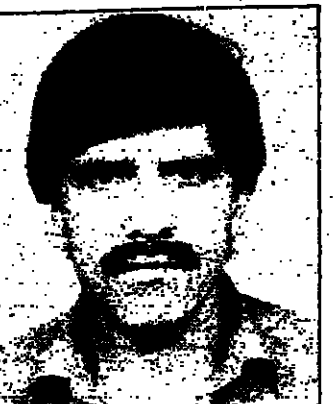
EVERGREEN cricketers thrashed Rangers by 10 wickets in a one-sided Indian Tea board Trophy match at the EPI ground on Friday afternoon.

Rangers opted to bat after winning the toss but their decision failed to bring any dividends as Arshad Pindiwal and Amjad Malik, the Evergreen pacemen, took them to task and the whole team was out for only 34 runs.

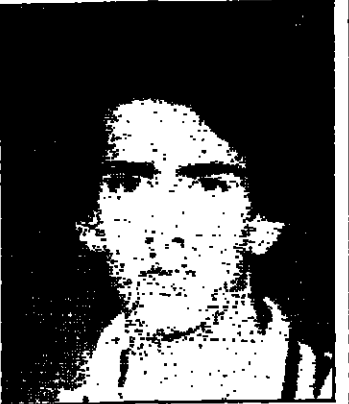
Amjad and Arshad were in top form as they claimed four wickets each for 12 and 23 runs respectively. Sikandar was outstanding in the field and took two excellent catches and also helped run out one Rangers player, Asad Baig.

For Rangers, only Vinod Patel did something of note by scoring 29 runs.

Evergreen openers Ejaz Butt



Arshad Pindiwal



Amjad Malik

and Waqar went for the runs from the start of their innings and without a reasonable target in front of them managed to score the required runs in just over seven

overs without being separated. Ejaz hammered three sixes and three fours in his unbeaten 42 while Waqar remained unbeaten on 12.



555
Stands out for taste

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

SPORTS

New Zealand reach team squash semifinals

SINGAPORE, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Former world champion Ross Norman struggled off his recent poor form to guide New Zealand into the semifinals of the World Team Squash Championships today.

New Zealand, runners-up in 1987, beat a disappointing Finland team 3-0 to set up a clash with second seeds Australia, who

cruised into the last four with a 3-0 win over Canada.

Veteran Norman's consummate 6-9-9-3 9-2-9-1 victory over Sami Elopuro was the key to the quarterfinal tie which New Zealand had feared.

"Ross (Norman) got his confidence back a bit today and his agility and speed

around the court were much better than of late," said Neven Barbour, the New Zealand coach.

"A lot was riding on his match. At this stage in his career it was one he had to win."

With 30-year-old Norman, the 1986 world champion, back in form, Barbour

hinted that he might save him from an expected defeat by World Open champion runner-up Chris Dittmar in the semifinal with Australia.

"Being realistic, we are looking to beat England for the bronze medal," said former international Barbour.

England sail to 5-wicket victory

NEW DELHI, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Robin Smith and Allan Lamb hit half-centuries today to steer England to a five-wicket win over Sri Lanka in the opening match of the Nehru Cup one-day cricket tournament.

Smith, one of the few England players to remain unscathed by their drubbing by Australia in the Ashes series earlier this year, was named Man of the Match for his unbeaten 81.

He hit seven fours and anchored the England batting that made heavy weather of the 194-run target, which was reached with eight deliveries to spare.

After winning the toss, Graham Gooch put the Sri Lankans in to bat first, perhaps expecting to find some advantage in the New Delhi pitch following heavy rain yesterday.

Paceman Phillip DeFreitas, whose place was in doubt until yesterday because of an elbow injury and who played with his arm bandaged, was the most successful England bowler, taking three for 38.

Gooch, who had a miserable time in the Test series against Australia, took two Sri Lankan wickets but failed with the bat, being dismissed by Graeme Labrooy for five.

He was caught at mid-wicket by Aravinda de Silva, who took three fine catches and was also the mainstay of Sri Lanka's innings.

Sri Lanka were 42 for three when De Silva went in and made a sparkling 80 to help them recover to 193 all out in 48.3 of their 50 overs.

De Silva made half his runs from boundaries and was playing with increasing confidence when he was beaten by a ball from off-spinner Eddie Hemmings that kept low.

Lamb underlined his return to fitness after an English season of injuries with an aggressive display of batting that included three lofted drives into the stands.

He and Smith put together a 101-run partnership before Lamb swung wildly at Kapila Wijegunawardena and was caught at mid-wicket by De Silva for 52.

England team manager Mickey Steward said South African-born Smith found conditions very wearing because of the heat and humidity and drank



England wicketkeeper Jack Russell (right) jubilates after Ranatunga's dismissal. (Reuters wirephoto)



Russell (centre) and Lamb (right) celebrate Sri Lankan batsman R. Mahanama's dismissal. (Reuters wirephoto)

several pints of water during the match.

"He said it was the most uncomfortable he had felt in a cricket match," Steward said.

Scoreboard

SRI LANKA:	
R. Mahanama run out	1
R. Karuppa c Russell b Fraser	5
A. Gurusinha c Lamb b Capel	19
A. Ranatunga b Hemmings	80
A. Ranatunga b Gooch	24
S. Jayasinghe c Stewart b Gooch	24
A. de Silva b DeFreitas	81
A. de Silva b DeFreitas	2
E. Hemmings not out	2
E. Hemmings not out	2
Extras (b-1 lb-3 w-10 nb-2)	21
Total (five wickets - 48.4 overs)	196
Fall of wickets: 1-18 2-34 3-137 4-157 5-170	
Did not bat: P. DeFreitas, G. Smith, E. Hemmings, A. Fraser	
Bowling: Ratnayake 7-1-10-0 (w-1), Labrooy 7-1-34-1 (w-6), Ranatunga 10-4-39-2 (w-2), Asoka de Silva 10-0-29-0 (nb-1), Asanuri 3-0-22-0, Aravinda de Silva 3-0-16-0, Wijegunawardena 8-4-1-37-2 (nb-1, w-1).	
Result: England won by five wickets.	
Man of the Match: Robin Smith	

SPORTS BRIEFS

Tokyo tennis

TOKYO, Oct. 15, (UPI): Wimbledon and US Open champion Boris Becker of West Germany and Sweden's Mats Wilander have withdrawn from the \$627,500 Seiko Super Tennis tournament opening in Tokyo Tuesday, organisers announced today.

Sabatini wins

FILDERSTADT, West Germany, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Final result of the \$250,000 Filderstadt women's international tennis tournament today (Prefix number denotes seeding): 1-Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina) beat 5-Mary Jo Fernandez (US) 7-6 (7-5) 6-4.

Allen triumphs

KAILUA-KONA, Hawaii, Oct. 15, (AP): Mark Allen, a 27-year-old Californian, pulled away from Dave Scott about 3 miles (4.8 kilometres) from the finish line to win the Ironman Triathlon World Championship in record time yesterday.

Zimbabwe wins

HARARE, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Zimbabwe beat Young West Indies by five wickets today to level their one-day cricket series at 1-1. Scores: Young West Indies 168 all out. Zimbabwe 169 for five.

Volleyball match

OSAKA, Japan, Oct. 15, (AP): Led by 16 spike and block points by Troy Tanner, a member of the Seoul Olympic gold medal team, the US men's national volleyball team beat its Japanese counterpart 11-15, 15-11, 8-15, 15-13 today.

English soccer

LONDON, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Result of an English Football League division two soccer match played today: West Bromwich 1 Wolverhampton 2.

Dutch champions

THE HAGUE, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Defending Dutch champions PSV Eindhoven yesterday crushed lowly MVV Maastricht 8-1 with the help of a hat-trick from their Brazilian striker Romario and three own goals.

Judo crown

BELGRADE, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Britain's Karen Briggs dislocated her shoulder on her way to regaining the bantamweight title at the World Judo Championships yesterday.

Three killed

PADOVA, Italy, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Three young Italians died and seven were injured yesterday when a car hurtled off the track at a rally in northern Italy and crashed into spectators.

Yacht races

HOUSTON, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Australians Mitch Booth and John Forbes won their second race in a row yesterday in the Tornado World Championship yacht races while compatriots Allan Goodall and Greg Cann moved into first place overall.

Marlboro race

MONTEREY, California, Oct. 15, (AP): Al Unser Jr outdistanced an all-star field yesterday to win the \$520,000 Marlboro Challenge at Laguna Seca Raceway.

Connors triumphs

TOULOUSE, France, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Final result of the \$230,000 Toulouse men's tennis Grand Prix today (prefix number denotes seeding): Jimmy Connors (US) beat 1-John McEnroe (US) 6-3-6-3.

Pakistan rout India

Sidhu takes Man of the Match award

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Oct. 15, (AP): Pakistan pulled off an improbable victory yesterday over arch foe India to enhance its chances of winning the Sharjah Champions Trophy cricket tournament.

The three-nation, six-match tournament being played in the southern Gulf emirate of Sharjah ends on Oct. 20. The West Indies is the third participating team.

After being set the highly challenging task of making 274 runs for victory off 46 overs, Pakistan once again displayed their amazing powers of survival to snatch an exciting six-wicket triumph with seven balls to spare.

India had earlier rattled up an imposing 273 for four in the morning with opener Navjit Sidhu slamming a brilliant 108 off just 117 balls laced with eight fours and a six.

However, Sidhu's efforts were eventually in vain as the Pakistani batsmen, given a spanking start by new bowler Shahid Saeed (50) and the reliable Shoaib Mohammad (65) set about their task in the most energetic manner.

Sidhu had a consolation prize when he was awarded the Berger Man of the Match prize of \$500 for the first century in the three-nation contest, although most of the crowd thought the honour should have gone to Wasim Akram.

Wasim, Pakistan's hero yesterday against the West Indies, once again stepped out to dramatically change the fortunes of the game, watched by a capacity crowd of 20,000.



Navjit Sidhu



Wasim Akram

Wasim, who completed the first-ever hat-trick in Sharjah against the West Indies, smashed four electrifying sixes, two off one over by spinner Ravi Shastri in a hurricane knock of 37 runs, when he came in after the fall of opener Saeed.

Wasim lasted only 22 balls but his brutal treatment of the Indian bowlers on a placid pitch was good enough to set the momentum for the eventual victory.

The graceful Salim Malik and master batsman Javed Miandad, returning to the team after skip-

ping yesterday's match, then posted 66 for third wicket after coming together with the score delicately placed at 169 for three.

Malik chalked up his second successive fifty, hitting a typically crisp 68 not out from 58 balls while Miandad was stumped off Shastri after stroking 31.

Skipper Imran Khan (17 not out) helped Malik finish off the job, the duo adding 40 runs for the undefeated fifth wicket.

In the morning, shoddy Pakistani fielding which grassed over four-clear-cut chances, helped

India pile up a sizable score off only 46 overs that were sent down.

Sidhu posted 92 runs for the opening wicket with skipper K. Srikkanth, dropped once at 7, (51) but the real tempo of the inning was given by veteran Mohinder Amarnath who clobbered a hectic 88 in a splendid second wicket stand of 161 runs in just 24 hours.

Amarnath slammed six fours and two sixes.

The Pakistani team went home richer by a bonus 200,000 dirhams (\$73,340) cash gift given by grateful compatriot businessmen and well-wishers.

Scoreboards

INDIA	
K. Srikkanth c Yusuf b Mashtaq	51
N. Srinivasan b Akram	108
M. Amarnath c Malik b Akram	88
Kapil Dev c Saeed b Akram	13
R. Shastri not out	0
M. Ashwin not out	0
Extras (b-1 lb-3 w-2 nb-1)	62
Total for four wickets in 46 overs	273
Did not bat: D. Vengalekar, K. More, A. Ayub, M. Prabhakar, C. Sharma	
Fall of wickets: 1-92, 2-253, 3-271, 4-271	
Bowling: Wasim Akram 9-0-30-3, Asif Javed 8-0-46-0, Saeed 3-0-24-0, Shoaib Mohammad 2-0-18-0, Mashtaq Ahmed 10-0-47-1, A. Qadir 7-0-44-0, Imran Khan 7-0-58-0	

PAKISTAN

Shoaib Mohammad run out	65
Shoaib Saeed b Shastri	50
Wasim Akram c More b Ayub	37
Salim Malik not out	68
Javed Miandad c More b Shastri	31
Imran Khan not out	17
Extras (b-1 lb-3 w-2 nb-1)	5
Total for four wickets in 44.4 overs	274
Did not bat: Salim Yusuf, Abdul Qadir, Mashtaq Ahmed, Javed Asif, Imran Khan	
Fall of wickets: 1-99, 2-152, 3-169, 4-234	
Bowling: Kapil Dev 8-0-47-0, M. Prabhakar 10-0-46-0, Chetan Sharma 5-0-35-0, M. Amarnath 7-0-15-0, A. Ayub 10-0-67-1, Shastri 9-0-60-2	

Faldo takes matchplay title

WENTWORTH, England, Oct. 15, (Reuters): US Masters champion Nick Faldo sank a 20-foot putt for an eagle at the final hole to go in front for the first time and win the World Matchplay golf title by one hole against fellow-Briton Ian Woosnam today.

The victory, another in an impressive list of triumphs this year, was Faldo's first success in 10 attempts at this championship and earned him the biggest prize in European golf, £100,000 (\$155,000).

His Ryder Cup partner Woosnam, who twice led by three holes, the second time with just seven to play, had to settle for the runner-up prize of £60,000 (\$93,000).

"I dreamed this would happen but I didn't think it would," Faldo said. "I just targeted my shots at the pin the whole day, imagining that they would come off, and they did."

"This must be very tough on Ian. He played and putted great," Faldo said.

Faldo captured the Volvo Masters season-ending title at Valderrama at the end of October last year and after collecting the US Masters title in April, he added the British PGA and Masters crowns in successive weeks in May and June.

Rethink tactics, says Howe

LONDON, Oct. 15, (Reuters): England soccer manager Bobby Robson has been urged to update England's predictable game or risk World Cup failure in Italy next year.

"I have told Bobby that between now and the finals we should try different things within our own 4-4-2 system," Rob-

son's right-hand man Don Howe said today.

"To go to Italy without a few ideas up our sleeve would be silly."

Robson has said he will not experiment when World Cup hosts Italy meet his side at Wembley next month.

Italian press

ROME, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Italy predictably found themselves under attack from the Sunday sports press following their 1-0 defeat at the hands of three times World Cup soccer winners Brazil in yesterday's first meeting between the two for seven years.

"Thanks Brazil, you've taught us a lesson," ran the headlines in the Gazzetta Sportiva bemoaning Italy's first defeat at home since going down 1-0 to Wales in June last year.

H&E struggle past Ahmadi

THE Hunting and Equestrian Golf Club hosted Ahmadi Golf Club in the annual inter-club competition on Friday.

The match was keenly contested and ended with H&E pulling a tight victory by winning 9-7 overall.

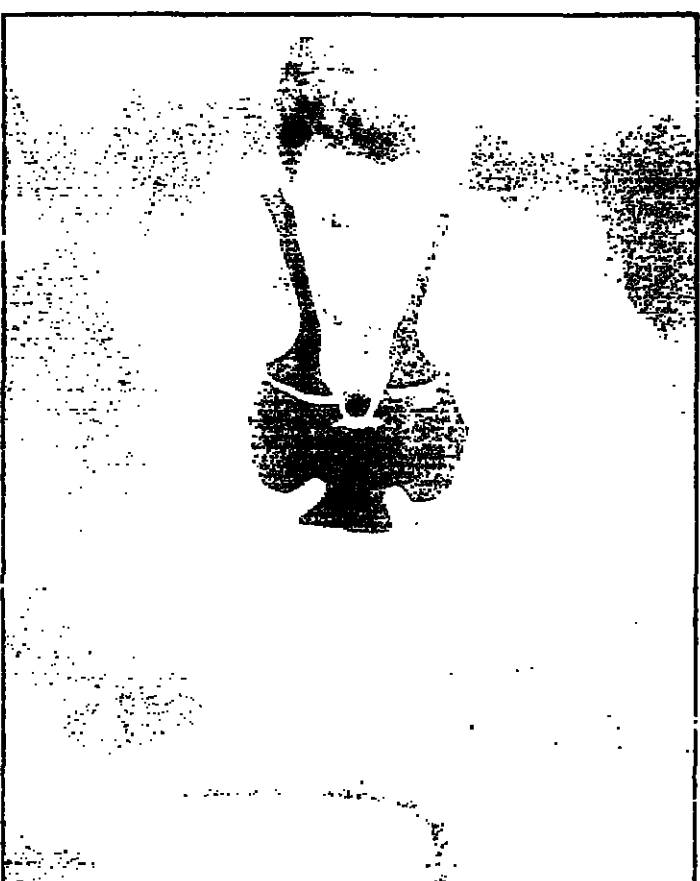
One of the tightest matches played was between the foursome of Mohammad Siddique and A. Hussain from Ahmadi, and Adnan Asaf and Saud Al-Hajji from H&E. Ten birdies and one eagle was carded to decide the outcome which was in favour of the Ahmadi duo by a score of 2 and 1.

In side competition, Ahmadi captain Roy Connor topped his team's loss by winning nearest to the pin contest on the par 3 fifth.

While H&E provided the winners of the longest drive for men won by Adnan Asaf, the longest drive for women won by Sigrid Sawires and nearest to the pin contest for ladies won by Eileen Walters.

A Stableford contest was also held for players who did not make the inter-club competition.

Artemov earns top marks



Artemov is in action during the horse jump competition. (Reuters wirephoto)

STUTTGART, West Germany, Oct. 15, (Reuters): Olympic champion Vladimir Artemov earned the first man to earn marks of 9.90 at the Stuttgart World Gymnastics Championships today as he put the Soviet men well ahead in their defence of the team title.

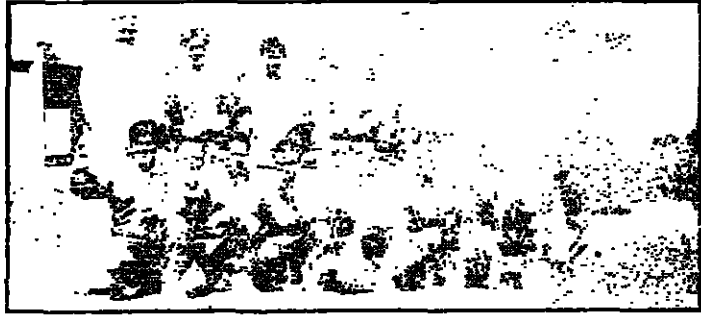
Artemov, who won gold medals in the all-around, parallel bars and horizontal bar events at the Seoul Olympics, took the individual lead after scoring a total of 58.90 in the compulsory exercises of the team event on the second day of the championships.

With four other Soviet men in the top eight and European champion Igor Korobchinsky still to perform in the final group, the team looked confident of holding onto the title they have won at four of the last five championships.

Artemov, who collected 9.90 for the floor exercise and the horizontal bar, was followed in the interim standings by European all-around silver medalist Valentin Mogilya, who performed yesterday.

Olympic team gold medalist Vladimir Novikov and Vitaly Marinich shared third place with East German Sven Tippelt, winner of one silver and two bronze medals in Seoul.

Tippelt's high marks, which included 9.80 on the floor and pommel horse, and a good showing from world joint vault champion Sylvio Kroll put the East Germans in a good position to fight China for the silver medal.



Kiran Resort triumphs

The Kiran Resort basketball team which won a basketball championship, organised by the Kuwait Hotels Company recently. The other teams who participated in the event were Bayan Palace, Kuwait International Hotel, Messiah Beach Hotel and Airport Hotel. Above: The general manager of the Kuwait Hotels Company, Adnan Zeinedine, with the winners.

Fifa-Mars sign agreement

JOSEPH S. BLATTER, executive director and general secretary of Fifa, the international soccer federation, and Theo Loenders, senior executive of Mars, yesterday signed the agreement for official sponsorship of the 1990 World Cup. The World Cup will take place in Italy from June 8 to July 8, 1990 when 52 matches will be played in twelve different cities.

According to this agreement Mars and M&M's become official snackfoods of the 1990 World Cup. Both brands will also be entitled to use the World Cup emblem, the World Cup mascot which bears the name "Ciao" and the World Cup Trophy. Mars and M&M's will also benefit from advertising boards in each of the twelve stadiums where all the matches will be played.

This agreement is a clear confirmation of the commitment towards sports of two of the world's best known consumer brands. Mars and M&M's quality and nutritional values are ideal for sporting people as well as for all consumers whose life styles are oriented towards quality of life associated with fitness.

Mars has already shown its interest in soccer by sponsoring the Naples team which gathers some of the best soccer players in the world including Diego Maradona. Mars also lends its support to the entire world of sport: — in 1984 Mars as official sponsor of the Olympic Games in Los Angeles; — Mars sponsored the London Marathon during several years; — in 1990 M&M's chocolate will be the Official Chocolate Food of the Asian Games.

On the occasion of signing of this agreement, Blatter commented: "It is a special pleasure for Fifa to welcome Mars and M&M's among the official sponsors of the World Cup which will no doubt become a record-breaking sports event with millions of spectators and billions of TV watchers worldwide." "We are proud to have among our sponsors such quality brands which are world renowned by soccer players, soccer fans, and all those who enjoy snackfoods" added Blatter.

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